Daily Report

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Intergovernmental Council Begins Talks in Havana

FL2509140790 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] The 11th meeting of the Intergovernmental Council for the Coordination of Information of Nonaligned Countries convened in Havana today. The activities began in the morning, with an address by Carlos Aldana, head of the Cuban delegation to the fourth meeting of nonaligned countries information ministers that will begin tomorrow.

Aldana commented on the complex current situation in which the representatives of the underdeveloped countries should seek options that reflect their interests.

[Begin Aldana recording] We will work with all the others in a search for consensus, particularly regarding our contribution to the achievement of a greater level of cooperation that will allow the development of the structures and alternatives that the movement has created as a legitimate means of confronting inequality. [end recording]

Victoria Chitepo, of Zimbabwe, outgoing president of the Council, presented a report of the activities carried out by the council during the three years of her term. The report notes the great gap between the position of the underdeveloped countries and the control exercised by the developed world in the area of information.

[Begin Chitepo recording] The session has begun very well. Although it began only a short time ago, there has been great, very active participation by the delegations. [end recording]

A report presented by the International Radio and Television Organization emphasized the threat posed by the trend toward privatization of radio stations, and the difficulties that it creates. The document also emphasizes the organization's solidarity with Cuba, which has been subjected to hostile radiophonic emissions, and to the threat of television transmissions for destabilizing purposes, in violation of international law.

Another interesting topic of discussion was the news agencies that are gathered in the well-known pool, which are a valuable tool of the underdeveloped countries, even though they face limited opportunities, among other problems, because of high telecommunications rates. Nevertheless, the nonaligned countries propose to further develop the exchange of information among their news agencies.

Information Ministers Meeting Opens

FL2609013890 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] The third meeting of information ministers from nonaligned countries opened today at the Palace of Conventions with Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, in attendance. The session was presided over by Carlos Aldana, head of the Cuban delegation to the conference in which over 80 delegations of the movement's members, observers, and guests are present. The opening remarks were made by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers. The Cuban leader recalled that the struggle for full national sovereignty and development has been a goal of the Nonaligned Movement from the time it was created, and it will not disappear with the elimination of military blocs.

[Rodriguez] *We share the universal hope that those possibilities persist, and we rejoice with the people because the time of universal peace is approaching. The events in the Persian Gulf remind us, as we were reminded by Panama, Central America, and Angola, that the danger goes beyond the differences between large nuclear powers. Tens of millions of people from the Third World are born and die without having ever set foot on a school, without having been treated by a doctor, without having read a newspaper, without knowing what television is like, and without even having the advantages of electric power.*

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez insisted that information is a field in which the irritating and dangerous inequality between the developed North and backward South is seen. Under such circumstances, the South is left as a mere consumer of news generated by the multinational corporations that distort reality.

[Rodriguez] *The technical superiority, the power of large multinational information corporations, and the overwhelming amount of resources they have lead to the virtual monopoly of news, of information, and tp its most open manipulation.*

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez cited several achievements on the nonaligned efforts to get rid of the prevalence of multinational corporations.

[Rodriguez, in progress] *...the strengthening of the role of news agencies, the development of radio broadcasting organizations, the modernization of networks, the reduction of telecommunication rates in numerous countries, the increase of specialized centers for training and documentation in various regions.*

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez criticized the strong propaganda campaigns conducted against Cuba sponsored by the United States worldwide, especially the radio and television aggressions.

[Rodriguez] *It should be noted that the U.S. President himself, in a report submitted recently to the U.S. Congress, had to admit not only that Cuba had been able to jam those broadcasts but that they had been internationally reputed and that they were not approved by the International Frequ. cy Registration Board, which considered them illegal.*

At the proposal of Uganda, the speech was approved as an official document of the conference. Delegates representing Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America also spoke during this opening session.

Further Reportage on Opening

FL2609021490 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Report by Orlando Contreras from Havana's Palace of Conventions]

[Text] The opening session of the third conference of information ministers of nonaligned countries was held at Havana's Palace of conventions this afternoon under the honorary presidency of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State, in his opening remarks, made an analysis of today's world situation, including the activities of the Nonaligned Movement—specifically, the tasks related to information and communications. Let us listen to an excerpt of his speech.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] The crisis of socialism in Europe, the virtual elimination of socialism in Hungary, Poland, the GDR, and Czechoslovakia; its weakening in Bulgaria; and its vicissitudes in the Soviet Union, have made the U.S. authorities and its friends from other countries euphoric. They think that Cuba will not be able to survive the break of its trade ties with the East European countries and are also waiting—that is, they are wishing—for the collapse of socialism in Cuba. This is why they are trying to make even greater and close even more the blockade to which they have subjected our country for 30 years. They are stepping up their television and radio propaganda and their efforts to isolate Cuba.

This is not the time to explain what we are doing and what we will do to defend Cuba's socialism which, as it is known, is not a mere copy of the socialism that existed in the countries in which it was defeated. In Cuba, it emerged as a result of an authentic popular revolution, associated to the national and liberating efforts of our country. It has been maintained with its own traits and original nature under the leadership of Fidel Castro and the party for over 30 years. [end recording]

This was Carlos Rafael Rodriguez as he opened the third meeting of information ministers of nonaligned countries at the Palace of Conventions this afternoon. The meeting will conclude on Saturday.

Economic Conference Closes in San Pedro Sula

PA2509170090 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 19 Sep 90 p 7

[Text] The Central American economic conference, "Action Strategies for the Decade," sponsored by the Federation of Private Organizations of Central America and Panama [Fedepricap] and the Caribbean Central American Action [CCAA] closed in San Pedro Sula yesterday after producing three resolutions.

The meeting, which opened Sunday, was hosted by the Cortes Chamber of Commerce and Industries [CCIC] and the Honduran Private Enterprise Council [Cohep].

The conclusion was reached that the rapid changes around the world have affected international activities at all levels and have transformed both human coexistence within nations and relations among them, all of which could lead to a revision of such relations.

The toppling of ideological, political, and military barriers as part of an affirmation of democratic values of freedom has created new opportunities and restates the need for efficiency and competitiveness and the introduction of technological changes that represent truly breaking away from historic tendencies.

Those who attended the conference also concluded that Central America has taken positive steps toward consolidating peace, particularly since Esquipulas, and that Central America has sought cooperation and regional cooperation, especially after the Antigua, Guatemala, presidential summit.

According to the conference, stating strategies for the decade requires new objectives and mechanisms for implementation within the framework of fresh international challenges and the historic heritage of unresolved problems.

Those present agreed that modernization and productive transformation are based on a greater foreign opening and greater participation by the private sector.

They also agreed on both increasing the incorporation of scientific and technological advances into productive processes and the reasonable management of natural resources to conserve ecosystems and biological diversity.

In addition, they recommended educational and cultural policies to reinforce and consolidate the best elements of the national entity.

Regarding the Bush Initiative for the Americas, they agreed that the treaties serve as a framework for paving the way for free and fair trade agreements. "The Central American countries are hereby urged to formalize and sign such treaties."

They recommended the creation of a high-level Central American technical commission by the public and private sectors convened by SIECA [Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration] and Fedepricap.

This commission would look into probable points of agreement and other points that might serve as a basis for eventual proposals and conclusions regarding a free and fair trade treaty with the United States.

Concerning regional debt, which amounts to $24.3 billion, "Central America should present at the Paris Club a special solution for the amortization of bilateral debts under terms more favorable than those offered by commercial banks."

Pointing out that President George Bush's proposal to forgive part of the bilateral debt is encouraging, the conference recommended that Central America strive to keep positive balances in its relations with international organizations so that the loan principle can be greater than the amortization of capital and the payment of interest.

According to the recommendation, to attain this objective it will be necessary for the IMF, the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank], and the World Bank to adopt more flexible procedures in financing the region's needs.

It was also concluded that, regarding foreign investment in Central America, it is necessary to create a general framework to encourage the installation of foreign corporations in the region through clear and sound regulations.

Cuba

Fidel Castro Grants Interview to GRANMA

FL2509141490 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1303 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] We cannot just stand idly by and ignore our difficulties. Instead, we must simply confront them, regardless of what they are.

That is the headline of an interview granted by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro to the GRANMA newspaper. The main topic of the interview published today by the organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba is the strategy that will be applied to produce no less than 15 million quintals of tubers and crops in Havana.

In this regard, Fidel refers to three meetings of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers to analyze and draft the guidelines. Another topic discussed during the interview with the commander in chief pertains to the introduction of the microject-air irrigation technology. Fidel also said that the mobilization of Havana residents into agricultural tasks could be increased to 20,000 workers during times of maximum demand.

During the interview, Fidel reported that 100,000 bulls are being trained for agricultural use. This step will not affect meat quotas, he said, because poultry is supplying the amount of meat needed.

In another part of the GRANMA interview, our commander in chief stressed that if we have a surplus of personnel and not enough for them to do, the revolution will never put a single man or woman out on the street.

Comments on Plans for Havana Province

FL2509200090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] We are considering a strategy to achieve a production of no less than 15 million quintals [crop not specified] in Havana Province. The basic idea is for the province to become self-sufficient in tubers and vegetables and produce enough for the residents of the capital, not just so that enough food will be available, but also to avoid transporting those products from distant provinces.

This statement was made by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at the beginning of an interview with Comrade Susana Lord of the newspaper GRANMA on Sunday, after his second consecutive weekend tour of Havana Province. On this occasion, he was accompanied by Chilean Senator Anselmo Tule and Cuban officials.

After giving the number of tubers and vegetables that are to be planted in the 1990-1991 winter campaign, Fidel said that all potatoes will be harvested at once and later kept refrigerated for months because of the high cost of production. We are going to guarantee basic supplies such as plantains, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, yucca, corn, and other crops, Fidel said.

Fidel mentioned the use of microjet irrigation. He said that the introduction of that technique in the country will revolutionize plantain production, with land and air irrigation bringing yields of 20,000 and 30,000 quintals per caballeria, respectively.

The commander in chief said emphatically that the key to what we propose to do is the availability of adequate manpower. He said that Havana Province's miscellaneous crops enterprises, with their 1,700 caballerias, have only 1,900 direct manual workers, and that there are plans to reduce the administrative service personnel of those enterprises in that province and throughout the country.

Fidel said that some 50 camps will be built in the eight miscellaneous crops enterprises in Havana Province, and 10 more may be made available for the labor force that comes from the capital, which might total some 20,000 people at times of maximum demand.

After stating that agriculture in Havana Province has been fortunate to have the support of dozens of schools in the countryside, Fidel said that at this time, there are over 20,000 hectares planted—some 1,700 caballerias—which are afflicted with an enormous labor scarcity. This is due, he said, to the fact that when spring comes, it is no longer possible to count on the youths from the schools in the countryside, because they begin their period of exams and vacations.

The future solution to agriculture's problems, Fidel said, will not lie in the shuttling of workers [mobilizaciones], although it will continue to be the only recourse for a number of years. It will be necessary to build the required housing, establish adequate living conditions, optimize attention to the workers, and pay rural workers higher wages than city workers, if we want to produce the food that the people require, he said. He mentioned that it is not possible to mechanize the production of tubers and vegetables, as was done in the sugar and rice industries. He added that the rice crop will advance considerably with an engineering system that is being developed.

On the subject of raising livestock, Fidel said that the most urgent task is to increase the production of feed, of which some 13,000 caballerias have been planted this year. Under the special period plans, efforts have already begun to domesticate 100,000 bulls within no more than six months. These bulls would ordinarily have been sent to the slaughterhouse.

This makes the importation of poultry meat necessary to substitute for the beef those 100,000 bulls would yield. It has to be said that the equivalent amount of poultry is being purchased. It is possible and very probable, added the commander in chief, that if the fuel situation continues to be critical later on, not only because of the

difficulties in the supplies from the USSR but also because of the stratospheric oil prices caused by the Persian Gulf crisis, it would be necessary to proceed to domesticate 100,000 more bulls. We would thus have over 400,000 animals doing agriculture-related tasks. We cannot fold our arms because of the difficulties. We simply have to face the difficulties no matter what they may be.

Referring again to the shuttled workers in Havana Province, Fidel said: Of course, although the shuttled workers are showing a great awareness and work spirit, their production will never be the same as that of permanent workers. However, we are pleased with the fact that participation is massive and that volunteerism prevails. I am certain that there will be more than enough ideas and forces inasmuch as it is a vital matter for the country and the people have always responded and risen to the occasion during difficult times.

Fidel added: Everything is always more difficult in the capital, everything is easier in the rest of the provinces. However, if we had a large surplus of employees and not enough activities to employ them in, the revolution would never throw a single man or woman to the streets. Each worker will be guaranteed enough income to meet his needs. If it were necessary to reduce the work time per week, we will reduce it as much as necessary for the duration of the special period. Work hours per day would not be reduced. Work days per week would be reduced when there is no other alternative in activities that make this possible. To reduce one or two work hours per day would not translate into any type of reduction of transportation needs or efforts that people would have to make.

Many workers would have more free time, said Fidel. Free time is much appreciated as long as it is used in an intelligent and fruitful way.

Minister Interviewed on Prospects for Changes

PY2509235090 Santiago FORTIN MAPOCHO in Spanish 16 Sep 90 pp 2, 3

[Interview with Jose Ramon Fernandez Alvarez, Education Minister and Council of Ministers vice president, by Carmen Imperatore; place and date not given]

[Text] [Imperatore] Many countries believe that there should be a major democratic opening in Cuba. What do you think about this?

[Fernandez] What is meant by democracy?

[Imperatore] Democracy demands the existence of other political parties in addition to the Communist Party and that the opposition have legal status...

[Fernandez, interrupting] But do you think that it is feasible for political parties from the slums of Los Angeles, Chicago, Sao Paulo, or Lima to publish a news conference in a newspaper or have a representative in congress to freely express their positions?

[Imperatore] I am referring to Cuba.

[Fernandez] I like to exchange opinions... Do you know that 90 percent of the wealth is in the hands of 10 percent of the world's population?

[Imperatore] It is clear that this has not happened in Cuba...

[Fernandez] Then what does democracy mean? Is the right to speak the only condition for establishing democracy? This is a right that is intensively exercised in Cuba. I do not know whether you have seen an assembly or participated in meetings with students and social organizations, seminars sponsored by workers, agricultural associations or unions... Even when in possession of the truth one has to be articulate to defend oneself...

[Imperatore] About elections...

[Fernandez] Elections in Cuba can be regarded as different from other countries. The delegates from electoral districts are elected by each neighborhood, where residents propose the person who will represent them. Representatives at the municipal level are elected from among those chosen by the electoral districts. The municipal representatives vote for deputies at the General Assembly, which, in turn, elects the Council of Ministers.

[Imperatore] But there is no possibility of electing the president of the Republic...

[Fernandez] Just a moment... What happens in other countries? What happens in the United States?

[Imperatore] The United States is not a good example...

[Fernandez] No, it is not a good example, but this is the country that causes the most scandals and launches the most propaganda. They pay for all campaigns against Cuba.

[Imperatore] That is clear.

[Fernandez] I give as examples its transnational companies, mass media, satellites, television, and powerful economic and diplomatic influence, all of which have an affect on several sectors of the public and mass media organizations. I do not doubt the integrity of all journalists, but they can always report what they want to report...

[Imperatore] In this case you do not run any risk because we do not exercise censorship at FORTIN MAPOCHO.

[Fernandez] This is an exception. I have good reports about FORTIN MAPOCHO's circulation and freedom of expression. But we have other examples. The famous U.S. newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES, which is considered one of the most democratic papers, learned about the Bay of Pigs invasion three days in advance. They were about to report it in the newspaper but the

president told them: "It is not convenient for national interests to report this news." As a result, this report was not published!

[Imperatore] On that subject, there is no freedom of the press in Cuba either...

[Fernandez] Well, I think the situation in Cuba is different from that in other countries. If we are divided internally and publish the enemy's opinion, the empire [imperio] will devour us. Remember that we are 10.4 million people in the middle of a hostile sea of enemies who attack us and use all of their resources (military, diplomatic, economic, communications, and political influence) to try to strangle us. And they do not deny this.

[Imperatore] The proximity to the United States is meaningful...

[Fernandez] It represents permanent aggression, and mind you, we do not even buy aspirins from the United States. Our oil and spare parts come from 12,000 km away.

[Imperatore] Have you visited the United States?

[Fernandez] I was invited by cultural and sports organizations twice, but I was denied a visa for being "a dangerous element that could disturb order in the United States." Do I look like a dangerous subversive agent? (he laughs)

[Imperatore] No. Do you allow U.S. citizens to enter Cuba freely?

[Fernandez] Absolutely not.

[Imperatore] It has been called to my attention that in Cuba tourists can buy many products that are forbidden to Cubans.

[Fernandez] There is a simple explanation for that: We have serious economic difficulties and we need hard currency. Therefore, we purchase some products in markets where currency is freely convertible with the aim of satisfying tourists' demands. It is a way in which we can gain hard currency that the U.S. Government does not want us to obtain. They have poisoned some of our sugar shipments, and they exert pressure on Japan, Spain, and all other countries to prevent them from trading with us.

[Imperatore] The Cuban tourism development project includes foreign investments, right?

[Fernandez] Some companies from capitalist countries are participating in joint ventures with us. As a rule, we hold half of the shares. We provide the land and construction means, and we build the hotels according to the plans.

[Imperatore] And the foreign investors?

[Fernandez] They pay the employees and provide the equipment and everything for a five-star hotel... For example, a 100-room hotel costs $7 million. We cannot spend that hard currency if it is not going to be recovered through tourism to, in turn, guarantee better living conditions, food, electricity, fuel, clothes, employment, health, and everything for the Cuban people.

[Imperatore] What type of self-criticism should you make, taking into account the crisis in East European countries?

[Fernandez] There is one point that Fidel has repeatedly mentioned: Socialism's crisis does not involve socialism itself or socialist objectives, but the implementation of socialism. We began to correct our course in 1975, before anyone spoke about perestroyka, when Castro began a process of correcting mistakes.

[Imperatore] Like what?

[Fernandez] It was not a modification of the final objectives, but the correction of many mistakes and deficiencies that had brought socialism to a stalemate. Some of our officials mechanically copied things from other countries, and these things were not in keeping with Cuba's history, needs, characteristics, and possibilities.

[Imperatore] How was all this put into practice?

[Fernandez] We have even modified the rules for selecting new party members (for example, for Christians).

[Imperatore] What do you think of the current Chilean Government?

[Fernandez] We have given our support since the beginning of the process that presented the possibility of a solution, first with the plebiscite, and then with the elections. Cuba supported it, without any intervention.

[Imperatore] Why did Cuba extend that support?

[Fernandez] We saw that there was a possibility for the Chilean people to reach reconciliation and create a sound atmosphere of peace and tranquillity through a process of work, political debate, and social analysis. The Chilean people are aware that there will always be dissent, and that it is important to have macroeconomic and macropolitical objectives that should be supported and should serve as a framework for development in our continent.

[Imperatore] Do you expect that we will achieve Latin American unity?

[Fernandez] If we do not achieve unity, we will die. It is time to end the speeches and rhetoric on integration; the time has come to take action. This does not mean that the history and identity of individual nations will end. While there is a foreign debt and there is no unity with which to face abuse and oppression with an honorable answer, there will be no justice.

[Imperatore] Where will you find the power to achieve unity?

[Fernandez] The mixture of European, African, and indigenous races has given Latin Americans vigorous clear minds and a rebel spirit that nobody can deny. I believe our intelligence and reasoning should make us understand that unity is essential, regardless of political philosophies or methods for the construction of society, and regardless of religious creeds, the color of the skin, or any other factor.

Minister Fernandez Alvarez was an Army officer until 10 March when Batista staged a military coup. Shortly after that, he tried to oust Batista, but he was imprisoned "until the day of the revolution's victory". He rejoined the Armed Forces, becoming—along with Raul Castro—a vice minister of this institution.

"I have gone through all ranks," he said.

[Imperatore] There are 90,000 missing people in Latin America. What should Latin American governments do to make the Armed Forces discharge their duties?

[Fernandez] This is really a bold [puntuda] question... (he laughs). I have not used that word before, and now I am joking with you... My opinion on this matter has nothing to do with any country in particular; consequently, I am not referring to anybody.

[Imperatore] That is clear.

[Fernandez] I believe that nothing can be more incompatible with military honor and the reason for the existence of the Armed Forces than becoming their own nation's oppressors. The Armed Forces should not lose their position as an armed institution whose objective is to defend national integrity and sovereignty. As for your question, I think the people themselves should try to find a solution to their own domestic problems. In no case should any solution be accepted from abroad.

[Imperatore] As for Fidel... Time is passing. What will occur in his absence? Are there leaders in Cuba?

[Fernandez] Someday Fidel will no longer be around. We are training a new generation to be able to replace Fidel. We have been giving youths opportunities, especially in the past few years. There will not be another Fidel. His creativity, vision, courage, heroism, and comprehension have led the country toward progress. It will be difficult to find another person such as Fidel, but I believe we can count quite strongly on a firm generation of leaders who will promote the revolution.

[Imperatore] Will you have free elections?

[Fernandez] We have free elections although they are not similar to those in other countries. I have witnessed the elections here; some candidates who obtained more votes than others did not win the elections.

[Imperatore] What will Cuban elections be like in the future?

[Fernandez] The Communist Party is holding a congress now. We have urged all of the people to discuss everything, everything. Do you know what everything means? Everything is everything... Their opinions will be submitted to the congress. I have no doubt that we are experiencing changes in Cuba; I want to make clear that these changes will not be aimed at creating a bourgeois society, but at improving socialism and providing, if you like the expression, a more democratic spirit to our society. This is one of our most essential foundations.

[Imperatore] When will relations with Chile be restored?

[Fernandez] We came to Chile to pay a homage to Allende and not to talk about relations. We are ready to maintain worthy and respectful diplomatic relations with all governments that are worthy of being called that. The Chilean Government deserves this and our respect, but we are not asking due to a problem of dignity. We do not need to beg for it. They broke relations with us and it is up to the Chileans to decide on whether we should resume relations.

People's Councils Created in Havana City Province

FL2609024890 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Report by Josefa Bussi Rodriguez]

[Text] The People's Councils will be appearing in their respective neighborhoods in the country's capital beginning today and continuing until 10 October. The People's Councils, which will operate at the grass-roots level, are based on a detailed investigation conducted by the capital's government. This experience has already been applied in outlying municipalities. This research and the project for its practical application in Havana City was approved unanimously during a special session of the People's Government Provincial Assembly. Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Juan Escalona Reguera, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, attended the meeting, among other leaders.

Speaking at this assembly, Mirta Cardona, executive secretary of the People's Government in the capital, stated that the People's Councils are being created to find a government organization that has the authority and the ability to solve most of the people's problems. She also noted that this could be considered a very important strategic step in the perfecting of the People's Government system.

Jorge Lezcano Perez, first secretary of the party in Havana City Province, stated that the people should be warned not to have false expectations. These councils will not be a magic wand that will solve the many problems we have, especially when it is a matter of objective material problems. Lezcano said: We expect that these councils will be able to have a more adequate control of state resources, increase the fight against embezzlers, and provide a better service for the people.

Pedro Chavez, president of the People's Government in the capital, said the People's Councils are not an administrative organization, on the contrary, they will be a working team composed of all the voter district delegates. It will have the authority to suggest that the leader, official, or employee who does not work well be removed immediately from his post.

I note to "Exclusivo" [name of newscast] listeners, that three of the People's Councils that will operate in the country's capital will be presented today. The pioneers are the Luyano, Guiteras, and Alta Habana neighborhoods.

Batista on CDR-Related Issues on 'Open Agenda'

FL2509180090

[Editorial Report] Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0100 GMT on 25 September carries live on its scheduled "Open Agenda" feature from its studios in Havana a 46-minute call-in program with special guest Division General Sixto Batista, National Bureau and Secretariat coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, CDR, and alternate member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, PCC. Program host Antonio Resillez and journalist Talia Reyes of the Cuban Television News Services read questions submitted by the audience over the previous week and in the course of the program. Reception of audio and video are fair. Batista and the two journalists are shown seated in the studio throughout the program.

In introducing his guest, Resillez notes that almost 90 percent of Cuban youths over 14 years of age are members of the CDR, meaning that as the organization approaches its 30th anniversary, "7.4 million people are CDR members."

After giving a brief sketch of Batista's background, Resillez asks a question about the significance of his guest's appointment at the head of the CDR. Batista answers that he realizes there has been fear that his presence might herald a "militarization" of the CDR. He says this is unfounded, adding: "Of course, I believe that the enemies of the revolution, particularly those from the North, and a few internal ones that might exist, have waged a campaign in this regard." He continues to defend his appointment, saying that more than a general, the head of CDR is "a revolutionary, a man of the people, who came from the people, from the poorest class, who has fought throughout the years for the revolution and will continue to fight as long as he has the strength to do so."

He says that while the CDR's main task continues to be defense of the revolution and of socialism, in today's world the organization's interests have broadened to include participation in such activities as the food plan and the blood bank. He adds, however, that the enemy is still the same: "Yankee imperialism."

Resillez says that in statements made about the CDR "within the assemblies to call for the Fourth Congress that are still underway throughout the country," and in dozens of calls received by the station, there is a recurring concern: excessive tasks assigned to the mass organizations, particularly the CDR.

Batista says: "We have participated in many of the discussions regarding the convocation to the PCC's Fourth Congress in which this was discussed...and it is true that many tasks have been assigned to the organization that divert it from its main purpose." He says that to a large extent, this has been due to "bureaucracy" that the party has decided to eliminate. He says the party believes that "it is not necessary to wait for the Congress" to do this.

Batista says the CDR is endeavoring to place more youths into positions of leadership to establish a balance between the "experience of the elders" and the "youthful spirit that gives impetus, and new and fresh ideas" to the organization. He says that efforts in this regard are continuing. He denies that the CDR is mostly made up of middle-aged and older citizens, but gives no figures as to the actual number of youthful members. He says a national ceremony to mark the organization's 30th anniversary will be held at the Karl Marx Theater in Havana on 28 September.

In passing, Batista says there is a need for the CDR's to organize to achieve their purposes without depriving the people of too much of their free time. In support of this idea, he notes that Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, proposed within the PCC Central Committee that "defense days" be limited to every two months, "so that our people can have more time to rest."

Asked about the CDR's position on crime, Batista says that "those who think there is no crime within socialism are mistaken; there will always be crime." However, he said that in comparison with other countries, Cuba has less crime per capita than others. He calls for more aggressiveness on the part of the CDR and the entire citizenry to combat this, saying that those who commit crimes further the enemy's purposes.

Asked what the CDR's role is in the "special period" in peace times, Batista says: "We cannot say that we are currently in a special period. We are experiencing some aspects of a special period because of the lack of resources, particularly fuel. The struggle now, for all our people —and our organization considers this to be a basic task—is fuel conservation." He says some areas of the country have surpassed the goal of a 10-percent energy savings.

He says that in general, the CDR's goal is for the "cadres to take the initiative and change the methods and custom of expecting everything to come from above, and instead act dynamically and rapidly in the face of every task and problem faced by the revolution."

In closing, Resillez and Batista both congratulate all CDR members on the organization's 30th anniversary.

Commentary Views Nicaraguan Economic Crisis

PA2609013590 Havana International Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Sep 90

["Our America" commentary read by Julio Dominguez]

[Text] While Nicaraguan officials complain of the delay in receiving U.S. aid, poverty and crime are on the rise in that Central American nation. The Nicaraguan morning daily EL NUEVO DIARIO recently published a shocking report that described in great detail the situation of 300 families who are living—if you want to call it living—from what they find to eat in Managua's largest garbage dump, called (La Chureca).

Men, women, old people, and children desperately look for something to eat in the garbage dumped there every day by about 100 trucks. These human beings have to fight the dogs and rats for their food in a Dantesque struggle for survival. EL NUEVO DIARIO reports that the largest army of hungry people Nicaragua has ever seen is being formed at (La Chureca), and that this army is being promoted by the so-called economic reforms of the current regime.

None of the persons who spend the day at (La Chureca) can meet his basic needs of food, health, education, and housing. Although it is true that Nicaragua was punished for 10 years with an implacable warlike harassment, the promises of the Violeta Chamorro administration are not being fulfilled, and therefore it is not changing the situation.

In the meantime, all sorts of crimes are on the rise as never before in Nicaragua, and the experts say they threaten to reach epidemic-like levels. Local sociologists feel that the economic crisis is the main cause of the crime rate, but that the lack of political leadership, the loss of values in society, and the lack of coherent health and employment measures also affect this problem. Three months after the installation of the new government, the country is still waiting for the assistance and funds promised by the United States, which is inexplicably delaying the disbursement of $240 million out of the $300 million that the U.S. Congress approved for Nicaragua.

Local political circles are preparing for the talks which are to begin within the next few hours and which seek to attain a social pact or a concerted effort to find a solution to the economic crisis that has the country on the verge of a social explosion. The talks might be held in an atmosphere of instability that some groups feel is not appropriate for reaching any sort of agreement.

In this regard, the daily BARRICADA says that as long as there is repression, revenge, and the phantom of unemployment and hunger, there are no possibilities for negotiation. At any rate, a future agreement might be warped from the very beginning, inasmuch as entrepreneurs and workers are invited to talk together with the government but the political parties are excluded. Several political parties feel no such social agreement will be achieved under the present social conditions of the country, and they have plenty of reasons to believe so.

Many groups that initially supported President Chamorro have already lost confidence in her government's actions. In general, there prevails an atmosphere of social crisis that prevents any agreement in the midst of conflicting opinions.

Dominican Republic

Police Begin Investigation Into Bombing Incidents

FL2509174590 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] In a joint statement, the Armed Forces and the National Police announced yesterday that they have begun an operation to dismantle a subversive, terrorist plan that was discovered, according to the statement, after the explosion that took place in a building on the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo campus and caused three deaths. The military and police state that they intend to identify and arrest the top ringleaders or those charged with carrying out deadly plans to bring them to justice.

Although no names of any actual persons are revealed in the communique, it states that there are reliable reports from intelligence agencies that the plan is directed by extreme leftist groups with ties to the Dominican Communist Party, Dominican Workers Party, Ivan Rodriguez Faction, Anti-Imperialist Patriotic Union, United Left Movement, and the group of mass organizations.

Some Unions Reject Renewed General Strike Call

FL2509180190 Santo-Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] The union federations and professional, peasant, and mass organizations that signed the agreement with the government have rejected the call for a 72-hour general strike beginning tomorrow. In giving this information, Rafael Santos of the Independent Workers Federation and the Dominican Teachers Association said that these organizations have been consistent with their principles in acting this way. We think it is a hasty, avant-gardist call that could fail, since it has not been organized by the protest organizations as a whole, the leader stated.

Commentary Notes Need for Sacrifices, Moderation

FL2509181590 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The direct and indirect actions of those who are trying to destabilize the country's democratic system and obstruct all the measures aimed at overcoming the crisis the country is experiencing come not only from radicalized sectors of the political and doctrinal left, but also from sectors determined to hold on to their interests, their speculative actions, their desire for profits, and above all the irritating privileges through which they have been able to build up their fabulous fortunes on the backs of a people who deserve a better fate.

The country has seen, has witnessed, how President Balaguer has clearly, cleanly, sincerely, and responsibly led the way to reaching agreements aimed at having all organized sectors of Dominican society sit down at the table of analysis and sacrifice, beginning, of course, with the government itself.

But it seems that they do not want to understand that the country is above any private interest, and that the people cannot continue to pay for the wealth others accumulate through speculation and greed. It seems they do not understand that it is time for sacrifices, moderation, and austerity.

It seems that they do not understand that what is needed right now is investment of the idle capital that is thriving in foreign and domestic banks, and with this action they would be contributing to social harmony. That is why we say, blessed are those who understand that it is time for sacrifices.

Haiti

Citizens' Groups Meet, Discuss Priorities, Party

FL2509185190 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Excerpts] In Haiti on Friday, September 21, several prominent citizens met at the Christopher Hotel to hold a debate on matters relating to the country's political crisis. At the end of the meeting, the participants agreed to form a political party that would take into account the desires of the population. The panelists also severely criticized Mrs. Trouillot's government which has been in power since March 13, 1990. [passage omitted].

[Begin unidentified reporter recording] After a long day spent at the Christopher Hotel for the purpose of reviewing the situation in Haiti, the labor, peasant, public, private, and youth sectors agreed on the necessity for change in every sector of the country.

After a period of general discussion, the participants gathered in workshops from which they emerged with concrete recommendations. The youth sector, for example, evaluated its need to organize for the purpose of alleviating unemployment among its members. They focused on the need for the nation's youth to be integrated into society, and to have a voice in every important decision regarding the country. They expressed a desire for an educational system which is adapted to the country's needs.

Among the labor sector's conclusions were observations related to the pricing of staple commodities; recommendations that union leaders reset priorities to place the needs of the labor force above those of foreigners; identification of the need for a training policy for workers; the necessity for the country's economy to stand on its own feet again through the creation of more industries; and the suggestion that the National Front for Change and Democracy, the Movement for National Reconstruction, and other groups of similar ideology unite for the purpose of opposing all forces resisting change.

The public sector acknowledges that corruption in state administration, and tolerance of it, are among the main problems afflicting that faction.

Chief among the grievances of the peasant sector was injustice, including repression of the peasants by the military and by leaders of other sectors. They recommended the immediate dismissal of these oppressors as well as judgment against such criminals as Roger Lafontant and Williams Regala. This sector also denounced the dealings of some presidential candidates, and expressed strong support for the State Council. They lamented the poverty that forces peasants into the capital [Port-au-Prince] on their way to cut sugar cane in the Dominican Republic. The peasant sector also requested agricultural help.

The private sector argued that toleration of corruption within the state, lack of security, and trafficking in contraband, contribute to lack of productivity. Theft in public enterprise causes enormous loss to the state. The private sector called for abolition of monopoly, for the state to stop favoring one sector over others. [passage omitted].

The overall conclusions resulting from this day of reflection are that the current state system needs to be changed, and that each participating sector should have representatives in whatever government is elected. Several sectors acknowledge that the president of the Provisional Government, Mrs. Ertha Pascal Trouillot, is not only incompetent, but also did not respect the agreement signed upon taking power. [passage omitted] [end recording].

LIPARE Candidate Announces Presidential Bid

FL2509163690 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Excerpts] A new candidate on the Haitian political scene is Lesly Maximillien, president of the Patriotic

League for Haitian Renewal [LIPARE]. During a news conference at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Champ de Mars on Saturday, September 22, he announced that he will be a candidate for the presidency of Haiti in the elections to be held in December. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Lesly Maximillien, 48 years old, Haitian industrialist, gave a news conference at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Saturday, September 22, to make public his intention to run for the presidency of Haiti in the elections in December. Maximillien is president of the Patriotic League for Haitian Renewal (LIPARE). According to Maximillien, the League is comprised of many affiliated organizations. When journalists asked him for an example from among them, he was not ready to name even one of them.

Why does industrialist Maximillien want to become president of Haiti?

[Begin Maximillien recording] You should first ask whether the country does not require someone new on the [political] scene. Since 1987, we have had a so-called revolution, we supposedly caught a glimpse of future well-being, we supposedly saw change. We bought t-shirts that read, "Haiti Liberated," and saw them all over the streets, did we not? [passage omitted] [end recording]

The candidate gave details on how his party sees the problems of the country. The country, the candidate explained, does not have a political problem, but an economic problem, which he believes can be solved. Maximillien added that no presidential candidate can say today he has a program for a government. [passage omitted]

Jamaica

Prime Minister Manley Resumes Official Duties

FL2509160190 Bridgetown CANA in English 1541 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sept 25, CANA—Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley returned to work on Monday after a three month absence due to illness. On Sunday, he attended a special church service of Thanksgiving organised by his constituency colleagues where he expressed thanks to local and overseas doctors who attended him while he awaited surgery for cancer on his prostate gland. He was also treated in Miami for an attack of atypical pneumonia.

Manley had a breakfast meeting with his Cabinet ministers on Monday morning before going to his office at Jamaica House. During Manley's absence, the duties of prime minister were performed by Deputy Prime Minister P.J. Patterson.

*** Comptroller's Handling of Schleske Case Faulted**

*** Role of Schleske's Nephew**

90CA0125A Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 719, 13 Aug 90 pp 8-13

[Article by Carlos Marin]

[Text] Houston, Texas—The fall of Admiral Mauricio Schleske, the secretary of the navy until last 18 July, was brought about directly by what the law punishes as illegal enrichment. He was found to be the owner of two residences in this city's thriving "Galleria" development valued at $350,000 each, residences that he did not include in his statement of assets.

Schleske's fate is linked to that of another senior navy officer, Admiral Jose Luis Cubria, who was director general of the Merchant Marine until 10 January of this year and who owns two identical homes in the same exclusive Lexington estate at 2101 Bering Street.

The talk here is that the two former officials are partners in a chain of stores and own at least one shipyard in Spain.

Late last year or early this year, the Secretariat of the Office of the Comptroller General conducted an investigation here in Houston. The findings, with the required documentary evidence, were shown to President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

The first decision was to dismiss Cubria immediately, but with the utmost discretion.

Schleske was given the benefit of the doubt, without his finding out, the hope being that he would report his homes in Houston when civil servants were supposed to submit new statements in May. He did not, and preparations began in Los Pinos [official presidential residence] for the first dismissal of a secretary of state so far this six year term. His removal was ultimately revealed in a bulletin signed by the Presidency of the Republic.

Instead of the word dismissal, the communique used the ingenuous and venerable euphemism "resignation." But it did get one thing officially right: the admiral sprang a leak for what were indeed "family" reasons, inasmuch as it was a nephew of his who alerted the secretary of the Comptroller's Office, Maria Elena Vazquez Nava, about the admiral's and now former secretary's international status, which was out of proportion to the legal earnings of any sailor, no matter how high his rank.

Given the discretion with which the two admirals were kicked out of the government, the Presidency of the Republic made a key mistake. It ignored fundamental provisions of the law, which require the seizure of such properties by the State, prison terms of two to 14 years, fines of up to 500 times the minimum wage, the dismissal of the official, and disqualification from holding another public office, position, or commission for two to 14 years.

It was not until Thursday of last week (eight months after having fired him) that the Office of the Comptroller General of the Federation, in reporting on agreements between the federal government and the states on the disqualification of former officials, told the press that as of 26 December 1988 Admiral Jose Luis Cubria had been "punished for omitting properties in the United States from his amended statement of assets."

Nothing about seizures, fines, or prison terms, much less about his neighbor and comrade in arms and investments, Mauricio Schleske.

There is official evidence, dated 7 June 1990, in this city, however, that the two former officials still own at least three of the four homes that the Comptroller's Office detected among the assets which they never declared.

The logic of the cover-up is simple. It is, on the one hand, an attempt to preserve the idea that the president always makes correct choices in appointing top-level officials, and on the other, to prevent the so-called honor of high-level military commanders from being exposed to public ridicule.

Furthermore, Admiral Schleske, whose administration allowed the harassment of less eminent navy men to satisfy the appetites of the Federal Judicial Police, sold one of his two homes to a company in the British Virgin Islands, which has a reputation as a major international center for laundering drug money. The sale, on 5 March 1990, is recorded in one of the notary documents obtained here.

Family Secrets in the Comptroller's Office

Schleske had just recently been dismissed when several of Maria Elena Vazquez Nava's dinner guests learned from her, in one of her customary displays of trust, that the Comptroller's Office had been on to the navy and Merchant Marine chiefs for several months; the talk was that the penalties provided for in the Penal Code were not applied to them.

One of the guests, who asked that his name not be revealed, gave this PROCESO reporter two key pieces of information: the dinner gossip and a clipping from the morning edition of OVACIONES of 30 July of this year.

The column is entitled "State of the States" and is signed by Lilia Arellano. The final two paragraphs read as follows:

"Moreover, the concern that Maria Elena (Vazquez Nava) clearly displayed to her close friends in terms of how to react in this case and especially in the case of the former secretary of the navy, with the purchase of an apartment in the United States, has led her to make remarks that deep down reflect the worry that 'today's executioner could be tomorrow's victim....' Well then.

"We can only hope now that justice will be done and that the full weight of the law will be brought to bear on this major figure (he deserves it), in the knowledge that we

live in a state of law and that the doors have really been opened so that as far as cronyism is concerned we have a new mandate and a new Mexico."

So much for Arellano's column.

Late last year, in his 18 December column "En privado," Joaquin Lopez Doriga had linked Jose Luis Cubria to a series of blunders, suspicious operations, and rackets.

Lopez Doriga, who happens to own one of the beautiful homes in the Lexington development in Houston, was apparently reacting to the information that the Comptroller's Office was beginning its investigation, and who knows how far its investigators might go in ascertaining the origin of the Mexican properties on Bering Street.

Eight days later, 26 December, the columnist again brought up Cubria and asserted that the admiral owned more assets "than were listed on his statement." Therefore, he predicted, tying Cubria in with Mauricio Javelly, the ambassador in Switzerland, "he will be dismissed from his current posts and disqualified."

A family affair lies behind Maria Elena Vazquez Nava's confidential remarks, Lilia Arellano's recent column, and the other columns by Lopez Doriga:

The secretary has a team of advisers coordinated by a 38-year old attorney who has a PhD in administrative law from the University of Naples. His name is Antonio Schleske, the admiral's nephew.

The "Biographical Dictionary of the Mexican Government" says that he has been a member of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] since 1971 and has served as chief of advisers in ISSSTE [Institute of Social Security and Services for Government Workers] and as director of standards of public works, procurement, and chattels.

One of the few people with inside knowledge about what government employees admit to owning (statements of assets are a State secret even though they tell much about civil servants), Antonio saw his uncle's statement (submitted in May 1988) and discovered that the homes in Houston had been omitted.

As a public servant, he saw an opportunity to win his prominent uncle over to his own cause as coordinator of advisers in the Comptroller's Office and after overcoming the inherently disagreeable nature of the matter, he invited his uncle Mauricio to correct his statement.

He found it impossible. The inherently unequal family relationship was compounded by the age difference, their military versus civilian careers, their different resumes, and the uncle's place on the federal government's organizational chart. As if this were not enough, the admiral had been appointed secretary by the president, and his nephew was just an important but lowly colleague of Maria Elena Vazquez Nava.

At the close of their harsh exchange (the word here in Houston is that it was a "quarrel"), they had a permanent break.

Antonio Schleske then decided (in October or November) to show his boss that she had not made a mistake by appointing him as an adviser in the Comptroller's Office, and he tipped her off.

An investigation was set in motion immediately, under a dozen experts in matters of illegal enrichment.

The Properties

Obtaining access to public records in the United States, except those officially designated top secret (and anyone can at least ascertain this detail) is child's play.

On Monday 6 August it took a female clerk at the real-estate appraisal office less than five minutes to search around in her computer, locate these four entries, and print them up:

At 2101 Bering Drive, the address of the 11 houses that make up the Lexington estate, "Schleske, Maria Luisa" is listed as the owner of the house at 2121. This is the admiral's wife, who died in February of last year.

Maria Luisa was also listed as the owner of the home at 2123 when the Comptroller's Office conducted its inquiry, but a different owner, "Aritmos LTD," is listed on the copy that PROCESO obtained.

As for Jose Luis Cubria's homes, at 2111 and 2131, the owners are listed as "Cubria, Elsy" and Cubria, Maria C."

The admiral's wife's name is Elsy Lizarraga Hernandez.

In attempting to clear up the Aritmos mystery we saw a microfilm of the Lexington deeds and obtained certified copies of them in another government office.

The home at 2123 was sold by "Mauricio Schleske, a resident of Mexico City," through his "agent" Francisco Schleske, to "ARITMOS, LTD, a British Virgin Islands corporation," whose address "is P.O. Box 3150" in that Caribbean island group. The agreement was signed on 5 March and was recorded by the municipality at 0830 hours on the morning of 27 April.

Something odd leaps out at us here. A P.O. box is one of the most commonplace methods of laundering dirty money in international centers where such activities allegedly go on, and various media have put out stories about the British Virgin Islands in this connection. The fact is that banking transactions are conducted through these post office boxes at less political risk than direct transactions entail.

When one pays the obligatory visit, out of morbid curiosity, to the Lexington development, one cannot avoid seeing the building on its southern corner, at the intersection of Westheiser Avenue and Bering Drive. It belongs to one of the many Arab princes or kings who

have invested their oil profits in Houston; his name is Abdul Hassal, whose architectural fancy of a mere 22 stories suggests the main features of the Sphinx' face.

His Mexican neighbors' homes are some 100 meters away, along the sidewalk to the east.

Sporting red tile roofs and with an iron gate in the center, only five or six of the 11 homes can be seen partially from the sidewalk.

The first name on the directory by the intercom is "CUBRIA" ("Maria C." in the real-estate records). The other home of the former Merchant Marine director is listed in this directory under "GONZALEZ."

The home that Mauricio Schleske sold to Aritmos is listed under the extremely Castilian name "ZAVALA," and the one he still owns is listed under the "OYARZABAL" family.

Behind the gardens that border a driveway some 60 meters long one can see the two-story buildings, which have two-story roofs, giving them an overall height of four stories.

Some of the brick homes are bright red, while others are pinker. Schleske's houses are on the southeast corner, to one side of the recreation area, which of course includes a swimming pool.

Few people were out and about at noon last Wednesday in this quiet corner of the city. Not even the security guard was disturbed by the appearance of a camera, as he crouched down behind the windows of his cottage, which looks like the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born.

When I tried to communicate with someone inside (the intercom is just like an electronic public-service telephone), neither Cubria nor Schleske answered. There was no reply, and an attentive private chauffeur told this reporter that if the people living in these houses were Mexican, they "must come for four to six weeks a year, at the most, like everyone else."

Remember the Alamo

A haven for all sorts of investors from all over the world, this city has been chosen among several in the southern United States by thousands of Mexicans who are disappointed with their homeland's economy, especially since 1976, which saw the first wave of fleeing capital.

With confidence far from being restored, even in the thick of the Salinas modernization boom, many still arrive here today from the northern states of the Mexican Republic and from major cities like the Federal District, Guadalajara, Puebla, Leon, and Veracruz, on shopping sprees for all sorts of assets, both real estate and personal items, with which they feel they can maintain and enlarge their medium-sized or huge fortunes.

Real-estate developments and districts such as Warwick Towers, Four Leafs Towers, St. James, Greenway Plaza, Houstonian 2, 3525 Sage, The Bristol, The Oxford, Conroe, Woodlands, and Atascosita are full of Mexicans who, like Cubria and Schleske, become neighbors to live economic-disaster-proof lives.

The Four Leaves Towers are a pair of skyscrapers on a manmade hill. The security guard can be found in the middle of a lobby well-stocked with mahogany furniture, Oriental rugs, and dozens of artworks, a lobby more luxurious than those in the Chapultepec or Niko hotels. He agrees that between 15 and 20 percent of the apartment owners live regularly in Mexico. Under the gardens on this manmade hill are the parking lots, the swimming pool, and even a jai-alai court.

Gustavo Carvajal Moreno, the former president of PRI, former secretary of labor, and director of Tabamex, lives in Walden, an hour from Houston, where since the days of Jose Lopez-Portillo he has been one of the recolonizers of Texas.

In Houston and its suburbs, Mexicans also account for between 15 and 20 percent of the purchases of motorcycles, cars, artworks, antiques, livestock, farmland, and stock in a wide variety of companies, while confronting the racial prejudice that still exists almost all over the United States.

The famous modern hospitals in this city, which are almost as profitable as the local oil industry, are of course a good alibi to ease the consciences of investors with health problems who would not even risk going to the ABC Hospital in Mexico City.

Speaking of the health-care industry in Houston, it was learned three weeks ago (to the cynical indignation of Mexicans who come here to work) that Guillermo Jimenez Morales, leader of the PRI majority in the Chamber of Deputies, arrived at the Methodist Hospital with a party of 10 relatives and five physicians from Mexico. There were those who thought that something was seriously wrong with him, but it was soon learned that they were merely performing one of his regular checkups.

A BMW salesman who came from Jalisco 20 years ago speaks jubilantly of how often Mexicans come to buy these cars from him (at a cost of $60,000 to $70,000 or more, depending on the options), "and you know, most drive them only a few weeks a year."

Two months ago he was one of the salesmen from whom Admiral Jose Luis Cubria's son, who bears the same name, ordered a specially made Ferrari costing more than $80,000.

Cubria Jr. is the manager of the Intex company, ("A new concept in offices," his advertising reads), which besides selling apartments in the towers of the "Galleria" complex, advises import-export firms.

It is amid this atmosphere, so different from when the army of dictator Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and the filibuster Sam Houston marched through here, that the voyage of two sea dogs drew to a close.

* Wife's Activities Noted

90CA0125B Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 719, 13 Aug 90 pp 10-11

[Article by Ignacio Ramirez]

[Text] The "family reasons" that prompted Admiral Mauricio Schleske's resignation as head of the Navy Secretariat, reasons that were not officially explained, are attributed by some to the social activities of his wife, Lilia Abarca.

Praised by some and criticized by others, Mrs. Schleske has been in the limelight ever since she first appeared in public late last year, after her marriage to the then secretary.

"...We should remember that Lilia Abarca was a beautiful dark-skinned girl in Felipe Gil's chorus. Thanks to the passage of time and beauty treatments, she became an even more beautiful woman with cinnamon-colored skin who was able to inspire not just Bobby Capo but also a sailor of the seven seas who even had a reputation as a lady's man," wrote the reporter Cor in his column "Dimes y Diretes" [the grapevine] in EL UNIVERSAL GRAFICO of 21 December 1989.

According to the columnist, Schleske, who was widowed in February of last year, was introduced in mid-June by his colleague Rodriguez Jurado to the beautiful young Lilia Abarca, a cockfight promoter. "It was love at first sight..."

"The romance lasted about four months. Mauricio took her out on the high seas, and the ship's captain pointed out the poet's firmament. Swear your earthly and aquatic love, because you will make a heavenly love."

Lilia Abarca was officially introduced on 5 December 1989 as the president of the Navy Volunteers. With her extensive experience as a businesswoman, she organized an evening gala on 19 December at the exclusive "Premier," with Juan Gabriel performing, as a benefit for the Admiralty Villas, which are homes for retired seamen on lands donated by the state of Morelos.

Criticism rained down on Lilia not only because she charged 350,000 pesos per ticket but also because she forced senior navy officers to buy them (more than 1,000 persons attended the gala), besides having secured the sponsorship of several companies, Pepsi-Cola included.

"Juan Gabriel was, in fact, an unwitting Cupid," another social column commented. "Lilia Abarca hired him to perform in Veracruz and extended contracts for extra matinees. The admiral attended, but it was the businesswoman, not the artist, who captivated him."

No sooner had the guests at the soiree at the "Premier" recovered than Mrs. Schleske surprised them two days later with another evening concert, this time at "El Patio," starring Jose Jose.

"...Admiral Mauricio Schleske Sanchez gave his bride such a warm hug as the Prince of Song was delivering one of his romantic songs that he almost knocked off her wig. Lilia Abarca, who grows more attractive by the day, had to leave her seat for a few minutes and visit the ladies' room to arrange her hair, which willy-nilly, as the Chavo del Ocho says, had wound up out of place," wrote Mario de la Reguera in his column "Aqui, alla y en todas partes" [here, there, and everywhere] in EL UNIVERSAL.

He mentioned some of the guests: "At the same table as the navy secretary could be found the principal official of that branch, Admiral Rodriguez Jurado, accompanied by his wife Chacha; Cuauhtemoc Rubio, the owner and master of the 'Premier,' with the very attractive Julieta Rosen, and his artistic director Rodolfo Navarro...."

The social-events columnist noted that Mrs. Schleske had scheduled 28 special events for this year through the Unit of Navy Volunteer Promoters and was expecting them to be as successful as the galas that featured Juan Gabriel and Jose Jose.

"It looks as if Lilia, with her magnificent presence, has brought a breath of fresh air to the wives of the state secretaries in the cabinet. All Mexico is already talking about her," commented De la Reguera at the end of his column.

She also sponsored a pictorial exhibition at the Naval Club in Lomas de Virreyes on 3, 4, and 5 April. She hosted the opening-night screening of the film "The Hunt for Red October," starring Sean Connery, on 25 April. She became a fairy godmother for the children of seamen on Children's Day, handing out toys and candy. It was an affectionate Lilia who hosted a dinner on Mother's Day. She showed her enthusiasm when the Navy Secretariat conducted a reforestation campaign. And she was an elegant and admired guest on 14 June at the traditional "Black and White" ball at the Casino del Campo Marte, where she shone in all her splendor.

"She moved elegantly and discreetly to her husband's lead in a long dance that was one for the books, because like a good Veracruz boy Admiral Mauricio Schleske cut a fine figure on the dance floor," the society columns said.

In Veracruz, however, they have a different image of her. Whether it was with the admiral's consent is not known, but the fact is that Lilia Abarca had turned the port city into her center of operations for dances and cockfights.

To this end, her detractors say, when anyone opposed or did not heed her whims, she turned to the sailors of the Gulf Naval Force, something that more than once caused confrontations and unrest among the population.

Two incidents illustrate how she behaved in connection with what she regarded as social events.

She has been a fan of cockfights since she was a little girl and became the youngest and most successful promoter of such contests. This would not have been that bad, except that the Regional Livestock Union of Veracruz (UGRV) spoke out against her, though it did not file criminal charges.

It turns out that the admiral's wife had signed a three year agreement with the ranchers to obtain the cockfight concession at the Annual Fair at Ilan Ilan, a municipality in Boca del Rio, and the agreement was to expire this year.

The parties were unable to come to terms on extending the pact, owing to Mrs. Abarca de Schleske's intransigence, according to the UGRV. When preparations were supposed to begin four months ago for this year's fair, where for the first time the meeting of the National Livestock Confederation was going to be held, she demanded payment for the use of the cockfight facilities and "damages" of 120 million pesos.

There was no reason for the ranchers to pay, inasmuch as the facilities, besides being rusty, already belonged to them, as stipulated in the agreement. She first sent Mario Menza, her private secretary, to negotiate, but then came the threats, to the effect that illegal games were going to be held there. Finally, she sent in a group of sailors, who took the fair installations by force.

The ranchers had no choice but to give in, especially since the guest of honor had confirmed his attendance at the closing ceremony: President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who arrived in the company of Professor Carlos Hank Gonzalez, secretary of agriculture and water resources.

The traditional Veracruz Carnival was held at the same time as the fair. Since she could no longer stage the cockfights, she applied for the use of two street corners to organize popular dances.

This time it was her turn to pay. And pay she did....

But with a 60-million peso rubber check.

* Cover-up Charged

90CA0125C Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 720, 20 Aug 90 pp 26-27

[Article by Ignacio Ramirez]

[Text] The Secretariat of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Federation (SECOGEF) not only covered up for but also protected former Navy Secretary Mauricio Schleske Sanchez in connection with his ill-gotten wealth.

Even though public accountant Salvador Giordano Gomez, undersecretary B of SECOGEF, absolved the admiral of all blame on Tuesday the 14th, a mere reading of the Federal Law of Responsibilities of Public Servants shows how Schleske was shielded.

In contrast to what Giordano Gomez, a YMCA finance specialist and former systems coordinator for Aurrera, said, to the effect that the former navy chief is not the target of any special investigation, because he declared all his assets, the law is very clear in this regard.

Article 84 of the law says that "when outward signs of wealth are visibly and blatantly greater than the licit income that a public servant could be earning, SECOGEF may order inspections and audits, explaining and justifying its decision. When such actions require an order from a judicial authority, the Secretariat shall make the corresponding request."

It has been learned for now that the Comptroller's Office investigated Schleske's homes in the exclusive Lexington complex in Houston, Texas, where the former director of the Merchant Marine, Jose Luis Cubria, also owns homes. The judicial authorities were not called in, however.

It cannot be argued that the properties are registered in the name of the admiral's first wife, Maria Luisa (she was listed as the owner of the homes at 2121 and 2123 Bering Drive, while "Cubria Elsy" and "Cubria Maria C." were the owners of the homes at 2111 and 2131; Elsy Lizarraga Hernandez is the name of Cubria's wife), because Article 87 of the Federal Law of Responsibilities of Public Servants leaves no room for doubt:

"For the purposes of this law and of the Penal Code, the assets that a spouse and direct economic dependents may receive or own shall be included among the assets that public servants may acquire or regarding which they may conduct themselves as owners, unless it is proven that the spouse and direct economic dependents obtained them on their own and for reasons unrelated to the public servant."

As if this were not enough, Section VII of Article 17 of the SECOGEF Bylaws, which refers to the powers of the General Directorate of Responsibilities and Patrimonial Situation, of which Manuel Galan Jimenez is in charge, states that the appropriate investigations must be conducted, even on an official basis, into breaches of duty by public servants.

Another example of how Schleske is still being protected can be seen in the statements of Undersecretary Salvador Giordano Gomez, who claims that the admiral has already declared all of his assets, completely failing to mention the most recent declaration of assets that the former navy chief was supposed to submit, the deadline for which was Saturday the 18th, in other words, a month after his resignation.

Article 81 of the Federal Law of Responsibilities of Public Servants provides that the declaration of assets must be filed by the following deadlines: Within 60

calendar days after taking office, within 30 calendar days after leaving office, and in May of each year.

Neither internal comptroller Monica Maria Barrera Rivera, nor SECOGEF A Undersecretary Luis Vazquez Cano, nor much less the Comptroller's Office secretary Maria Elena Vazquez Nava have mentioned this; as far as they are concerned, the law in question is dead letter in the Schleske case.

Several legislators consulted by PROCESO agreed that for the good of the nation, the statements of assets of public servants ought to be revealed, not kept secret.

"The statements of assets ought to be available to the public prosecutor's office and the Judiciary. It does no good to keep them secret," emphasized Antonio Martinez Baez, a constitutional law expert, university professor emeritus, and PRI deputy.

In the view of PAN [National Action Party] Deputy Hiram Escudero Alvarez, there is no legal impediment to making the statements of assets of civil servants public. "There must be the political will to do so, because otherwise statements of assets lend themselves to concealment and disinformation."

PRD [Party of the Democratic Revolution] Deputy Carlos Bracho felt that the conduct of public servants needs to be up-front, not subject to the interests of the ruling party, the administration, or the Presidency of the Republic. "It must be in keeping with the interests of the people, especially now, when our institutions and some policies, such as the moral renewal of society, are altogether discredited, as they have fallen into oblivion."

It seems impossible that the admiral could have amassed enough of a fortune to buy his mansions in Houston from the time that the Federal Law of Responsibilities of Public Officials went into effect in early 1983 until his resignation.

In 1983 the maximum salary of a major general was 108,615 pesos a month (the same pay scale applies to navy personnel as well), and Schleske's official resume lists him only as chief of naval operations from 1986 to 1988. According to the general schedule of monthly salaries of public officials, as navy secretary he was supposed to earn a little over five million pesos a month, not counting compensation bonuses and other fringe benefits.

Schleske was nonetheless able to buy the Lexington mansions for two billion pesos.

* SECOGEF Statement

90CA0125D Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 720, 20 Aug p 28

[Article by Carlos Marin]

[Text] The Secretariat of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Federation [SECOGEF], which is accustomed to discretion and secrecy in handling information bearing on the honesty of public officials, took another false step last week in its stubborn effort to cover up the crime of illicit enrichment committed by Admiral Schleske, who was removed as secretary of the navy on 18 July.

In what is called a "sidewalk statement" in reporters' jargon, but which nevertheless has the force of an "official position," the office's B secretary, Salvador Giordano, made these assertions:

- No investigation is being conducted into Schleske's assets.
- Schleske declared all his assets as secretary.
- Therefore, "the reports" to the contrary are false.
- In this unusual way the undersecretary thus dismissed the concerns that were expressed by several journalists who were covering the presentation of the National Urban Development Plan on Tuesday the 14th, concerns based on the article that PROCESO published in its issue 719 last week.

The following clarifications are in order, in light of what undersecretary B of SECOGEF said:

No investigation of Schleske is, in fact, being conducted. This is because an investigation, by SECOGEF, has already been completed.

In the statements that he submitted as a State secretary (May 1989 and May 1990) Schleske never even mentioned the homes that he owns in the Lexington complex in Houston, Texas.

The core assertions of the article are categorically true, to wit: that Schleske did not declare these homes, which the law describes as "illicit enrichment," for which it provides penalties when officials are found in possession of undeclared properties; that the comptroller general, Maria Elena Vazquez Nava, found out about this from her coordinator of advisers, Antonio Schleske, who knew of the residences because he is the admiral's nephew; and that the Comptroller's Office covered up for Schleske, even though it dismissed Admiral Jose Luis Cubria as director general of the Merchant Marine on the same grounds of illicit enrichment.

Although the government issued a direct, official denial, the Secretariat chose the informal approach of a "casual" remark by the least appropriate undersecretary, inasmuch as Luis Vazquez Cano, the office's A undersecretary, is the man in charge of the sensitive information on statements of assets by high-level officials.

Nor did the Comptroller's Office use the ordinary channel of its Directorate of Social Communication, headed by Fernando Garcilita. He is now being identified in the Comptroller's Office as the person who leaked dangerous information to OVACIONES columnist Lilia Arellano, which was mentioned in the PROCESO article.

Although they were informal, Undersecretary Giordano's remarks underscore the official position of the Comptroller's Office: Schleske did not break the law; the PROCESO article is wrong.

The Comptroller's Office, which in its daily work is obliged to gather convincing evidence, has just slipped up. It has an obligation to disprove the accurate information and the documents, photographs, and testimony that this magazine has published, and it can gain credibility only if it discloses the former navy secretary's statements of assets.

It would thus be breaking its tradition of silence about fortunes that it is keeping hidden and would be upholding an elementary right of the citizenry: to find out about the assets of public officials.

El Salvador

FMLN Issues 'Proclamation to the Nation'

PA2609032290 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 Sep 90

["Proclamation" issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front General Command in El Salvador on 24 September]

[Text] FMLN Proclamation To The Nation

The Democratic Revolution

1. Poverty and oppression have increased. The revolution is necessary.

In our country, social injustice and poverty have increased over the last 10 years. Soldiers have been more merciless than ever. They continue to murder, repress, and impose their will upon the entire Salvadoran society.

The Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] government's economic plan is determined to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. It overlooks the health and education sectors and the needs of the majority.

Our country is mortgaged to the United States. We are now dependent on the United States more than ever. The need to conduct a national democratic revolution has never been as evident as it is today. This revolution will end the hegemonic, economic, and political power of the military and the oligarchic families. It will restore national sovereignty and help us attain lasting peace.

2. This is a national struggle, and the FMLN is an authentic Salvadoran organization. The struggle of the Salvadoran people against social injustice, the military dictatorships, and the oligarchic governments during the last 60 years has deep historical roots. As the political and armed representative of the people's struggle, the FMLN is an authentic Salvadoran force. The FMLN's and the Salvadoran people's struggle does not depend on anyone else. It is not an extension of the ideological struggle between the capitalist and the communist blocs. We, therefore, salute the end of the Cold War between the East and the West. Each day that our struggle continues in a firm and successful manner will demonstrate that we are not and never were an extension of the East-West war. If our struggle and the war our country is experiencing have a geopolitical or international explanation, it is not the defunct East-West confrontation but the existing struggles between the North and the South; between development and underdevelopment; and between the wealthy, capitalist, and imperialist countries and the dependent and poor Third World. That struggle is not over; it is, above all, an ideological confrontation.

3. The force that will make changes in our country is composed of many groups. The FMLN is not the only one that wants to witness our homeland's democratic transformation. All Salvadorans have been struggling for that goal in many ways. The force that will transform our country is composed of many and varied political and social groups and the FMLN is only a part of it.

4. This is a national and democratic revolution. The FMLN is historically inspired by democratic, patriotic, revolutionary, and popular ideas. The FMLN does not use its weapons to impose itself on our society. It uses them to put an end to militarism and to the power that weapons grant. The FMLN uses its weapons to reestablish a civilian society and to make a number of profound changes in the country's political and economic systems along with all of the country's forces. These changes will guarantee equal opportunities for all those forces to govern the country, thus guaranteeing the defense of the interests of the most needy. In that way, the country will head toward the end of social injustice.

The democratic revolution is an authentic national objective. It is extremely fair, widely supported, and historically necessary. The democratic revolution is definitive peace. The national democratic revolution entails four major changes: the end of militarism; a new social economic order; national democratization; and the recovery of our sovereignty and an independent foreign policy.

End of Militarism

The total demilitarization of society is the main guarantee for the existence of true democracy. The current Army has betrayed its historic origins; it has blocked all of the opposition's political aspirations; it has cruelly repressed the people; and it has been an instrument of the U.S. Government, which has used it to impose its policy on our country.

The Army is and has been a repressive organization. It has caused wars and has become a center of corruption. It is an unproductive organization and is currently an obsolete and unnecessary social, political, and economic institution.

Our society is evidently divided between the rich and the poor, and the Army has only protected the wealthy. That is why the FMLN appeared as a political and military force to protect the needy. The wealthy cannot go on having an Army that imposes its will through its weapons while the needy go back to being unarmed and subjugated. In brief, the Army has protected the few and become a threat to the majority. The new society must guarantee equality for all. Then problems will be solved through true joint efforts and understanding.

In our democracy, there should not be any kind of Army. We must all give up weapons. Three important measures should be adopted in this regard:

1. Total Elimination of The Army

In addition to its democratic benefits, this measure will allow the country to use the large military funds to

improve the health and education sectors. This measure will include plans to assist the demobilized groups economically.

2. New Public Security Forces

With the intention of guaranteeing public order and avoiding anarchy and crime, it is necessary to have a completely new public security force so that the latter does not become a power that will allow one social group to impose on another. The members of this force will be highly professional and will have a deep social and human sensitivity. The members of the new public force will be trained by all of the country's political forces. The director of the new public force will be a civilian; the candidate will be proposed to the National Assembly by a democratically elected executive branch.

3. Trials for Those Responsible for Crimes, Massacres, Forced Disappearances, and Tortures and End of Political Persecution

The involvement of the Armed Forces chiefs and members of the oligarchy in the aforementioned actions will be clarified.

The Armed Forces and private sector death squads will be dismantled and all the clandestine jails, torture instruments, and intelligence information that have been used to control the members of the political opposition will be publicly destroyed.

New Social, Economic Order

The country's economic power concentrates around a few families, which in the last 10 years have taken large amounts of capital out of the country to invest it abroad.

The concentration of wealth results in the ability to exert political power, buy military power, influence the judicial branch, and control the media. As long as wealth is concentrated in a few hands, there will be no real democracy. There will not be equal opportunities for all, all men will not be equal before the law, and social injustice will continue.

Hence, it is necessary to establish a new economic order to end the oligarchic economic hegemony in the country. Toward that end, we propose seven important measures:

1. A profound agrarian reform that will really benefit the peasants. This measure will require the continuation and improvement of the steps already taken. It will require the adoption of new measures to guarantee that our country's agrarian sector is left mainly in the hands of poor peasants—small and medium-scale producers—through cooperative ownership, and in the hands of owners of small and medium-size businesses. This will make it possible to decentralize national wealth and solve the problem of the enormous misery and backwardness in rural areas. This structural change will be the most decisive economic measure in solving the unjust distribution of land, which is the main cause of the social conflict and the main obstacle to our country's economic development and modernization.

2. Creation of an economic area of the people [polo economico popular]. This will require the strengthening, expansion, and development of self-promoted cooperative ownership and other forms of social or collective ownership in all production areas. In this manner, a large percentage of society's economy will be in the hands of rural and city workers under various systems of ownership. This group, together with the large number of owners of small and medium-sized private businesses, will be a determining factor in our economy. This group will establish the people's economic area to balance the economic power in our society. This will allow for the participation of all groups in decisions that affect the nation's economic policy and will create competition under equal opportunities.

3. Urban reform to fight poverty in the cities. This measure is aimed at fairly reorganizing urban property in the capital and in the main cities; at giving a social meaning to the urbanization process in the hands of the state; at ensuring the access of the majority to loans and technical resources needed for the building of homes; and at guaranteeing the solutions to the problems with potable water, health, public services, unfair rents, and a lack of security in the downtrodden neighborhoods, shanty towns, slums, and squatter areas.

4. An economically strong state that is capable of solving problems related to nutrition, health, illiteracy, education, housing, culture, and people's [word indistinct]. The state must be economically strong to secure the necessary resources to comply with its obligations. A special national literacy and people's health plan will be implemented. A special plan to help the victims of genocide and war—mothers, orphans, and civilian and military war wounded in the two armies—will also be implemented to promote postwar national reconciliation. To safeguard the state's economic strength, banks and foreign trade will be nationalized. A just tax policy, consonant with income, will be implemented. Measures to prevent the flight of capital will also be implemented. These measures will be the result of a national agreement. They will reflect the reality and the interests of all social forces and will be irreversible in establishing the state's social obligations and its role in the economy.

5. A permanent national concerted effort on salaries, prices, employment, and credit, bearing in mind justice for the majority. The national concerted effort will be a permanent institutional effort by the state, workers, professional groups, owners of small and medium-size businesses, cooperatives, and other economimc groups to guarantee just mimimum wages, stable prices, employment, and democratically distributed credits. Any policy that makes the majorities suffer the effects of the crisis must end. Sacrifices and benefits must be justly shared.

6. An end to pollution, deforestation and ecological chaos. An ecological protection law will be adopted to regulate all economic activities involving the use of land, natural resources, deforestation, and any activity that could contaminate the environment. The creation of organizations to protect the environment will be encouraged. This measure is aimed at ending the existing chaos and anarchy due to unfair development policies centered on obtaining profits at the expense of sacrificing our environment and our country's future.

7. Ending women's inequality through a special law and a women's ministry. This will give a woman equal rights, protect her from exploitation and moral degradation, and ensure her full participation under equal conditions in all the areas of society. Her working conditions and maternity and child protection will be improved. All this will be carried out with the participation of the women's organizations that currently exist and that will develop in our country.

National Democratization

With the end of militarism and the establishment of guarantees for a new economic and social order—the two main factors in the balance of power—a number of measures are necessary to establish the rules of a democratic political system that will give all sectors the same rights and duties.

We understand democracy to be a system where individual freedoms and the respect for human rights are fundmental and constitute the main goals of society and the state. The specific measures will be as follows:

1. Improvement of the legislative branch and democratization of the municipal council to guarantee a political system that will be representative, participative, and pluralist. In a clearly democratic move, the legislative branch will increase the number of its members and duties and the municipal council will have a pluralist integration according to the electoral results, guaranteeing that they are authentic instruments of democratic participation and self-management of the communities. The strengthening of the legislative branch will bring about an end to the corruption, absenteeism, negligence, and crisis within the current legislative branch.

2. An independent and impartial judiciary branch. This change will be prepared in conjuction with all political and lawyers' groups of the country. It will guarantee the true equality of men before the law, ensuring that there will be no impunity in any sector by virtue of its political or social position. As a result, corruption within the judiciary branch will come to an end.

3. Legislation to protect human rights. Full respect for human rights will be guranteed under the law. A human rights attorney's office will be created to protect the citizens from any abuses by civilian authorities or public security officers.

4. Freedom of expression and access to the broadcast media for all groups. It is necessary to balance and democratize the broadcast media according to the new economic order and political plurality. It is necessary to get rid of the oligarchy's monopoly over the media, making sure that the new political and economic groups close to the people's interests will have access not only to the current media, but also to their own media. This means legal measures that will facilitate and even financially support new groups in installing new broadcast media that will seek to balance radio and television frequencies and establish measures for publishing newspapers. The revolutionary left; all the political forces traditionally in the opposition; and the sectors of the economic areas of the people [polo economico popular] that have always been dependent on the waverings of the government, the respect for freedom of expression, and the will or lack of will of the owners of the media to give them space, will be able to open their own radio and television stations and newspapers.

5. Laws that will fully protect the independence of journalism in such a manner that the journalists can express their opinion, report the news, and be able to provide truthful information without losing their jobs or being otherwise punished by the owners of the media who may have different opinions.

6. Laws to protect freedom of organization, mobilization, and protests. So far, the workers' organizations, the mobilizations, the protests, and the strikes have been considered illegal, disorderly, or subversive. On the other hand, the repression and massive dismissals have been considered legal. Laws have been approved to restrict the rights of organization, strikes, and mobilizations and not to protect them. Full respect for freedom of organization and mobilization of all social, political, cultural, religious, and labor union groups should be guaranteed by law so that no organization will be restricted from carrying out any of the aforementioned activities. A new labor code will be established that will guarantee the rural, city, and government workers the right to organize and strike. This will ensure a true concerted effort among the workers, the businessmen, and the state.

7. A new electoral system for free elections. The new law will seek to guarantee free and honest elections that will ensure the participation of the entire population who are qualified to vote. It will provide equal opportunities to all parties and establish a legal voting age of 16.

8. A new political constitution that will strengthen democracy will be drafted and approved by a freely elected constituent assembly. This constitution will establish the historical pact of all forces of the country. It will establish the basic changes of the political, economic, and social system that are needed to ensure democracy, justice, and social peace.

9. The recovery of sovereignty and independent foreign policy. The measures that are proposed are:

A. Relations of mutual respect with the United States. The relations with the United States will be broadened and improved on the basis of a new policy that will recognize our sovereignty, self-determination, mutual understanding, and respect.

B. Foreign Policy Doctrine Based on Central American Integration and Latin American Integration.

We will join the struggle to achieve a new international economic order by assuming—without ideological conditions—the defense of the interests of Central America, Latin America, and the Third World in the North versus South, development versus underdevelopment, creditors versus debtors, and rich country versus poor country conflicts.

As a first step in the achievement of Latin American unity, we will join the group of countries on the continent that have established diplomatic and trade relations with the government and people of Cuba.

C. International Independent and Multipolar Policy

With this policy, we will seek to end political alignment and economic dependence by implementing a multilateral policy that will place at the axis our own development and the struggle for a just international order by advocating an aggressive expansion of our relations with other areas, centers, or world development blocs in Asia, Europe, and America.

D. Neutrality Policy and Ending of Military Pacts

Separation of El Salvador from all kinds of international military pacts regardless of their objectives. This entails reinstating a military neutrality policy and supporting negotiated solutions to international and domestic conflicts of other countries.

E. Agreement to Protect Salvadorans Residing in the United States.

Pursuance of agreements with the U.S. Government to ensure the protection and stability of the entire Salvadoran community residing in that country by supporting their struggle to legalize their situation by guaranteeing their political and migratory rights as Salvadorans; by establishing mechanisms to preserve their cultural heritage; and by strengthening and developing their economic ties with our country.

F. Cooperation in the International Struggle Against Drug Trafficking.

This will be based on a full cooperation policy under which we—without violating our sovereignty—will participate in regional and bilateral agreements to fight against drug trafficking.

G. Definitive Solution of the Border Conflict with Honduras. This will be based on a realistic policy that will take into account the specific interests of the two nations involved in the conflict.

This program represents the nation's peace. We will struggle for it until the end. The democratic revolution is the historic expression of national thought. It reflects the patriotic and independent spirit of Father Jose Matias Delgado and General Manuel Jose Arce; the integrationist spirit of General Francisco Morazan; the popular rebellion against the injustice of Anastasio Aquino; the modern vision of society by General Gerardo Barrios; the sense of social liberation of most of the FMLN; and the nobility and profound love for the poor, peace, and justice of the greatest martyr of our fatherland's history, Monsignor Romero.

The most repressive forces that are responsible for injustice and thousands of crimes oppose these ideas. Their hatred has reached monstrous levels and promoted genocidal massacres of people. They kill archbishops, priests, and nuns as if they were trying to crush the loftiest Christian values of our society and as if they wanted to erase the ideas of God from our people whenever they feel that God is not on their side.

Those forces represent the nation's anti-history [antihistoria], lies, and darkness. The people, who are struggling for a democratic revolution, represent our homeland's future, the historical truth, justice, life, and peace for all. All the power of our weapons, the heroic spirit of our courageous combatants forged by decades of fighting and sacrifices, and our unyielding determination to win are at the service of these ideas.

We will never renounce these objectives. We are struggling to achieve them at the negotiating table and also when we are fighting with our weapons. This is the noblest cause in our history. It is worth it to fight for this cause, to bring about peace, and it is worth dying for this cause.

Revolution or death, we will win!

FMLN General Command

[Signed] Commander Salvador Sanchez Ceren, Francisco Jovel, Eduardo Sancho, Jorge Shafik Handal, and Joaquin Villalobos.

El Salvador, 24 September 1990

Guatemala

Diplomatic Ties With Former Soviet Bloc Viewed

PA2609005090 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] Guatemala has started a process to normalize its diplomatic relations with the countries of what was known as the Soviet bloc. A first step in that direction was taken in the United Nations with the signing of a document that normalizes relations between Guatemala and Poland. The two countries established diplomatic ties in 1933 under the government of General Jorge

Ubico, but they were suspended in 1954 after the overthrow of the second revolutionary government and the rise to power of Colonel Carlos Castillo Armas, a known anticommunist.

The date has not been set for the ambassadors to present their credentials before each government, which might lead us to conclude that the exchange of mission chiefs will occur after the new president of each country has been sworn in. Both Guatemala and Poland have upcoming presidential elections. It is also foreseen that, following this normalization of relations with Poland, the reestablishment of diplomatic ties with other countries that have left the Marxist ideology could ensue, including the USSR, with whom relations have not technically been broken, only suspended.

Emergent Movement for Harmony Official Killed

PA2509234290 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2213 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 Sep (NOTIMEX)—A leader of the Emergent Movement for Harmony [MEC], the political organization backing presidential candidate General Benedicto Lucas Garcia, has been shot to death in eastern Guatemala.

Juan Francisco Flores, MEC's secretary for Santa Rosa Department, was shot to death yesterday in a restaurant on km 65 of the road to El Salvador.

So far there is no information on the motives for the attack, which has been added to recent killings—in various parts of the country—of political leaders of the governing Social Christian Party [as received] and the Union of the National Center, the country's second largest political force.

Gen. Benedicto Lucas Garcia, brother of former chief of state Romeo Lucas Garcia, a military man who was overthrown in 1982 by General Efrain Rios Montt, has stated that his top aides have been the victims of attacks and death threats.

Benedicto Lucas has blamed his political adversaries in the 11 November elections for this situation.

Honduras

Foreign Ministry Communique on Paris Club Talks

PA2509142490 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 19 Sep 90 p 2

[Communique issued by the Information and Press Directorate of the Foreign Ministry in Tegucigalpa on 19 September]

[Text] The Honduran Embassy in France has reported that Honduras' negotiations with its main creditor countries have ended successfully in Paris. An agreement has been signed which states that the diplomatic missions of the creditor countries will recommend to their respective governments renegotiating the part of the Honduran foreign debt that is overdue and the part that comes due in 1991.

According to the message from the embassy in France to the Foreign Ministry, they will recommend to the governments of the creditor countries that the Honduran foreign debt and its respective interest be paid under the following terms:

1. Debts on unsecured loans: 20 years to pay, with a 10-year grace period. The interest will be negotiated with each country, but under conditions similar to the original unsecured loans.

2. Debts on secured loans: 15 years to pay, with an 8-year grace period. The interest will be negotiated with each country at the prevailing market rate.

According to the Honduran Embassy in France, converting the debt will be voluntary. In the debt conversion, each creditor country's government may use the entire balance of unsecured debt and up 10 percent or $10 million, whichever amounts to more, of secured debt to help the environment, as social aid, or to purchase local assets or currency.

According to preliminary calculations, this renegotiation of the Honduran debt represents relief [alivio] of approximately $170 million. This means that Honduras will be current on its payments with the countries that choose to participate in this mechanism as soon as bilateral negotiations are completed. This is the result of the arrangement reached in Paris, which allows lines of credit and aid, which were suspended because Honduras is in default to its creditors, to be reactivated.

Also, Honduras has been granted relief on $170 million in its balance of payments that would have been due in 1990 and 1991.

This agreement confirms the support of the group of creditor countries known as the Paris Club for the readjustment economic policies implemented by Honduras. In fact, the participating countries and institutions, such as the United Nations, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the IMF expressed support for Honduras and its program. The countries that participated in this meeting as creditors were Canada, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Denmark, France, Germany, the United States, Japan, the Netherlands, and Italy.

The exceptional financing and renegotiation conditions achieved in Paris will help to achieve excellent conditions from Honduras' other creditors, such as commercial banks and other international financial institutions.

The relief for Honduras in its balance of payments is very important at a time of scarce funding, since it significantly alleviates the burden of servicing the foreign debt and allows the country to stay current on its payments, thus restarting the flow of credit and aid from that important group of countries.

The Honduran delegation to these successful negotiations was headed by the Finance and Public Credit Minister Benjamin Villanueva, who was accompanied by, Ricardo Maduro, president of the Honduran Central Bank; Maria Antonieta Dominguez, World Bank coordinator of foreign debt; Cristiana Nufio de Figueroa, adviser to Mr. Maduro; Public Credit Director Cesar Carranza; and Analia Napky, Honduran adviser to the IMF.

Nicaragua

Chamorro Addresses Nation Before New York Visit

PA2609044290 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 26 Sep 90

["Message to the nation" by President Violeta Chamorro at the Presidential Palace in Managua on 25 September—recorded]

[Text] My dear countrymen: Tomorrow I will leave for New York to participate in the 45th UN General Assembly meeting. The reason for my trip is to present to the world the struggle by the people of Nicaragua to consolidate democracy, peace, and economic progress. Everyone knows the serious situation we are experiencing. We must all work so that the national dialogue has positive results for all Nicaraguans.

My government is convinced that some decisions that have to be adopted will be hard, but with effort and understanding by all we will attempt to have the effects of these measures harm the poorer sectors as little as possible. This is the challenge my government is facing. That is our people's challenge. We must face and solve the crisis with as little harm as possible to the poorer classes, through the civilized way of a sincere dialogue among brothers.

It is regrettable, however, that some sectors of our society want to place obstacles in the path of the government as well as the people to achieve these goals. These intolerant sectors want to prevent the people and government from advancing with their plans for economic recovery and reactivation. They want this burdensome situation to continue. They want people to continue in their misery. They do not want this government to rule. This is something I will not allow, because I acquired a commitment with the people on 25 February through the determined vote cast by most of you. I will not let you down.

I only ask you to be aware of the reality we are experiencing. Let us all put our best efforts forward to make our country advance. I am sure that with the support and patience of all Nicaraguans we can do it. The future belongs to all of us. The future belongs to the Nicaraguan people.

We have heard new reports of sabotage to our weakened economy by those extremist sectors. The police must prevent all public demonstrations from abusing the right to freedom. This is a mandate of our Constitution. Today the police have once again confirmed their loyalty to my government. They have assured me that they will fulfill their duty as guarantors of law and order. Let us have faith that it will be that way. The Nicaraguan Government and people demand and need this, because we deserve to live in peace.

I will be absent for a few days fulfilling my duties as president of the Republic of Nicaragua at the UN General Assembly, attending to important international commitments for the good of our country.

I leave full of optimism and confident in the success of my mission in favor of the people who took me to the Presidency of the Republic. Now I tell you once again that I trust my people fully. I am sure you will not let yourselves be fooled or scared by provocations, and that you will understand and patriotically defend the national peace and unity that we have struggled for and deserve. Thank you.

FSLN Actions Said 'Verging on Subversion'

PA2609004890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1815 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Defense Ministry has no comment on the announcement of a new wave of political unrest that has been sponsored throughout this week at the national level by leaders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. The statement was given to Radio Nicaragua by a Defense Ministry source who was consulted this morning on the possibility that a communique might be issued calling to order all those who resort to violence. If anything must be said, the Government Ministry, which is in charge of enforcing public order in Managua and the country, will do so.

The truth is that the FSLN's mass organizations have been carrying out actions verging on subversion for several weeks, and the police and other authorities have failed to adopt measures that would nip these actions in the bud because they cause damage and destabilize the nation, which is on the verge of bankruptcy.

The takeover of the Enabus [National Bus Enterprise] installations by a small group of FSLN fanatics is an example of this abnormal and illegal situation, because public transportation users are suffering the lack of this vital public service. The citizens continue to ask: When will the authorities enforce the law in this country?

Former Contras Reportedly Clash With Farmers

PA2509155090 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] The situation that has prevailed in the countryside over the past few weeks worsened yesterday as a result of confrontations in La Dalia UPE [State Production Unit], where seven people have been killed and four were wounded. The problem stems from the fact that about

3,000 former contras are in Regions One, Five, and Six and are virtually again at arms and are demanding—actually confiscating—from farmers already cultivated fertile land, because the government has failed to honor its promise to give them farms to work.

Tension mounted this weekend in San Juan de Rio Coco because about 150 contras occupied the Las Nubes UPE, which is still under the leadership of Noel Perez, alias Donald; and Francisco Ruiz, alias Taurino. In retaliation, the farmers have occupied the mayoral office of San Juan de Rio Coco, the local bank, and the private farm El Amparo. Meanwhile, in Juigalpa, Region Five, peasants from cooperatives yesterday surrounded the facilities of the Government Ministry delegation. There were two marches along the streets of Juigalpa to demand land. Peasants from cooperatives and agricultural workers demanded that privatization benefit the workers.

EPS Officer Discusses Commission on Mass Graves

PA2609022390 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] continues to investigate the events that occurred in Mokoron and Murra, where mass graves were found, even though Costa Rican and Argentine forensic doctors and pathology experts said that the report presented by a human rights commission linked with the contras was unreliable, it was stated yesterday by Colonel Hugo Torres Jimenez, member of the EPS General Staff.

At a friendly invitation from the National Assembly, Col. Torres appeared as General Humberto Ortga's delegate before the Assembly's Human Rights Commission to clear the slanderous reports issued against the Armed Forces. Col. Torres and Lieutenant Colonel Denis Moncada Colindres, chief of the Military Legal Advisory Office, offered detailed explanations to the commission.

The colonel told the commission that the accusations issued against the Army by people who spent 10 years working with the contras and now claim that they advocate human rights "may have a political goal, which is to discredit the Army."

Likewise, UNO [National Opposition Union] Deputy Frank Duarte, who chairs the commission, said he feels "quite satisfied" with Col. Torres' explanations because they helped to "dispel doubts."

Col. Hugo Torres explained to the commission that it is not farfetched to think that more bodies will be found in the mountains following the bloody war which ravaged the country for 10 years. Hundreds of times the EPS found in the country's valleys and ravines the bodies of counterrevolutionary members who died in combat, and they were buried, not to mention the fact that the contras also buried their dead in the mountains.

Journalists were surprised to see that none of the leaders of the human rights commissions—Lino Hernandez' commission and Marta Baltodano's commission—who presented the report to the Assembly was present yesterday to hear the Army's explanations. This was interpreted as a confirmation that the report was a propaganda scheme prepared by revengeful people to discredit the Army.

BARRICADA asked Frank Duarte, president of the National Assembly's Human Rights Commission, if contra leaders will be summoned to answer questions about kidnapped people, but Duarte said that his commission "does not feel it is imperative" (?) to summon them, and, besides, many of those who were kidnapped "had become contras."

Panama

Endara, Chorrillo Refugees Reach Agreement

PA2609040890 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 21 Sep 90 p 19

[Report by Justino Gonzalez Jr.]

[Text] More than 100 Chorrillo refugees marched to the Presidential Palace yesterday to demand that the government begin the construction of new homes in the devastated areas and that they be given a sum of money for the losses sustained as a result of the U.S. invasion.

The demonstrators, dressed in black, in mourning for the residents of this populous corregimiento who were killed last 20 December, banged on pots and pans to draw attention to "the spiraling unemployment" that exists in the country.

The Chorrillo inhabitants met at the popular Casa de Piedra in their corregimiento and held an impromptu rally to voice their concern over the delay in the construction of new homes, despite the fact that the work has already been placed on bid.

The Chorrillo leaders claim it is necessary that the United States compensate the relatives of the persons who were killed and those who lost all their belongings.

On reaching the Presidency, they were greeted by President Guillermo Endara Galimany, who listened to their requests. He said he was equally "desperate" over the difficult situation experienced by the many homeless who have been given refuge in the Albrook hangar.

The authorities agreed to discuss a list of demands presented by the Chorrillo refugees.

Meanwhile, yesterday afternoon the groups who rejected the U.S. invasion and criticized the government headed a march along the main avenues up to the Cathedral Plaza where several speakers addressed the crowds.

Endara received a commission of the Chorrillo refugees and the following agreement was reached:

1. The president will ask the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry to go through the National Employment Board to check the list of Chorrillo unemployed. This will be done according to the rules of that board and after consulting with the refugees of the different camps and their leaders.

2. The president said that according to the Ministry of Housing plans approved by him, the homes will be delivered in an uninterrupted manner, especially between December 1990 and March 1991. Also, to expedite the project, the contractors of El Chorrillo have been authorized to work (16) hours daily, in two shifts.

3. Regarding the refugees who have been described as "freeloaders," the president said his government is greatly concerned about them and is really giving them the importance they deserve. He said several alternatives are being studied, including requests for assistance from AID [Agency for International Development] and the EEC, to offer them a solution that will be equal to or at least similar to that offered to the Chorrillo refugees.

4. The president will contact Mayor Guillermo Cochez to clear up the problem of the refugees at the pension on G Street in Santa Ana and at the bus terminal in El Chorrillo, so that a group of refugees may work in constructing the terminal.

5. Regarding the 24 December and Renovacion Urbana buildings, the president promised to ensure that the National Mortgage Bank will agree to make reasonable pay arrangements that will permit the refugees to live decently. At the same time, he pledged to write notes to the U.S. authorities and to AID, advising them that the Panamanian Government has never been opposed to economic aid being offered to the residents of these buildings, as two U.S. congressmen and a U.S. official have rashly stated. He will ask, therefore, that the refugees of the Renovacion Urbana and 24 December buildings be included in the $6,500.00 benefit under the Chorrillo Plan.

6. The president said the Panamanian Government will continue to make efforts to improve the indemnification for household effects. To this end, the Chorrillo leaders promised to present a serious and realistic study on the average amount of the household goods in the different places affected by the U.S. invasion.

7. The president said that the repair work on the 24 December and Renovacion Urbana buildings is guaranteed against defects, both by the contractor and by a fulfillment bond of the insurance companies. By virtue of this, the Housing Ministry will ensure fulfillment of the document signed by it on 25 July 1990.

8. The Chorrillo leaders will provide a list of the seven Protestant churches of El Chorrillo which were destroyed, and the president will make every effort with the U.S. Government to ensure that these Protestant churches and the Catholic Church be considered beneficiaries of the Chorrillo Plan.

9. The president said that the 1991 budget of expenditures will include an allocation to rebuild the Republica de El Salvador School in El Chorrillo.

10. In the case of those persons who have been laid off, the Chorrillo leaders confirmed that, according to the previous conversation, they will draft a list and send it to the Presidency of the Republic.

11. The president will undertake efforts with the U.S. Government and AID so that those refugees whose homes were not destroyed in El Chorrillo, but who were asked by the U.S. Army members to abandon their homes, will be indemnified for their household goods.

12. The president of the Republic commits himself to ensuring that the Chorrillo refugees who have been duly accounted for in the census and have been recognized as having the right to a $6,500.00 savings account will be granted this amount by 20 October 1990 at the latest. Guillermo Endara Galimany President of the Republic For the Chorrillo Refugees [no name as published]

Chevalier To Negotiate Oil Prices With Venezuela

PA2609004490 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 25 Sep 90 pp 1, 23

[Excerpt] The price of a barrel of oil went up to $40 yesterday, and Panamanian Commerce and Industry Minister Juan Chevalier will travel to Caracas today to negotiate more favorable prices.

The $3 increase in the price of a barrel of oil dramatically affects Panama because President Guillermo Endara had previously announced that the government would absorb the increase in the oil prices up to 31 December "if the prices caused by the Persian Gulf crisis do not exceed $28 a barrel."

"We have made sacrifices, but if the prices skyrocket, we will have to increase the price of petroleum by-products," Chevalier warned. He reiterated that to absorb the increase in fuel prices for consumers, the government will not receive approximately $20 million in taxes.

Panama consumes 24,000 barrels of petroleum a day. It is supplied by Venezuela, Mexico, and Ecuador within the framework of the San Jose pact. [passage omitted]

Prosecutor Views 'Influence' of Military Detainees

PA2609030690 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by Vilma E. Figueroa B.]

[Text] Special Prosecutor Carlos A. Herrera has pointed out that some Public Force members still respect the rank of the former military leaders now serving time in detention centers for their alleged participation in Dr. Hugo Spadafora's assassination.

"I have observed that some subordinates address the officers by their former ranks, although they no longer hold them," Herrera said.

Herrera added it is worrisome that, according to reports by Public Force members, some of the people involved in the Spadafora case somehow communicate with others outside.

He said that the detained military members are always saying that they will regain their posts and ranks and that they have instructed their subordinates so the special prosecutor does not receive any cooperation from the Public Force.

Herrera pointed out there is trafficking in influence because Public Force members have told Emilio de Leon, Chiriqui's public prosecutor, of their fear of reprisals by the detained military members.

Referring to yesterday's remarks by Dr. Ebrahim Asvat, who holds the Attorney General's Office responsible for some of the accused people freely walking the streets of Panama, Herrera said he is no prison warden and that he does not hold the keys to the country's prison cells or jails.

Herrera said that some days ago he asked Dr. Asvat to intervene because there was "trafficking in influence" among the detained, and "some of them still act as if they wore their former ranks and give instructions and orders to their subordinates."

This was said after Carmenza Spadafora, sister to the doctor murdered in September 1985, reported that former Colonel Luis "Papo" Cordoba was seen to arrive at House No. 0824 in Balboa with his mother and two Public Force members at 1600 on Friday.

"This is totally illegal. The officials, prison wardens, or whoever are in charge of watching over the places where these people are detained will have to bear their full responsibility and account for these actions," Herrera underlined.

He said, "The problem is that some people are using their influence. Consequently, they are walking the streets instead of being detained."

Herrera said that those who have been detained by the Public Prosecutor's Office go out on the streets only when ordered by this office to do so in the course of an inquiry, which could be for the sake of a comparison, an expanded investigation, or a visual inspection.

This is done through an official note sent to the place of detention. The inmate is then sent to the Public Prosecutor's Office for the inquiry. Once this has been completed, the inmate is returned to the place of detention.

Herrera said that he will present his case on 7 October. He stated he will continue the investigation as soon as he receives the case file on which a disagreement is being settled, because situations such as these just cannot be permitted to continue.

KGB Presence, Soviet Coup Rumor Reported

PA2609013490 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 25 Sep 90 p 5

[From the "Tips and Leaks" column]

[Text] The proper authorities should investigate whether it is true that a large number of agents of the America Department of the Cuban Government have entered the country under the cover of various nationalities. There are also rumors that Soviet KGB agents are operating in our country. Meanwhile, well-informed local communists say that there will be a coup d'etat against Gorbachev in October.

Argentina

Navy Ships To Arrive in Gulf in '25 or 26 Days'

PY2509164090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish
1434 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Sep (DYN) - Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Jorge Ferrer today said that the "Almirante Brown" missile destroyer and the "Spiro" corvette will reach the Persian Gulf in "25 or 26 days" and that during the trip the commanders will carry out "internationally coordinated tasks with several nations."

Ferrer said that for these coordinated tasks "the government will give precise instructions, which are known as 'the rules of behavior for commanders.' The rules will apply to procedures in the zone of operations." The commander denied that the ships will make stopovers at ports housing NATO bases. He said that the two ships will sail through the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean to the area of conflict.

In statements to Radio America shortly before leaving for Puerto Belgrano, Ferrer said that the mission to the Persian Gulf has "a clearly humanist intent," which is to "maintain international law and preserve peace." He added: "This decision marks a very important trend for the future use of the Armed Forces—and not only the Navy."

He explained that during the trip the two ships "will operate under international coordination, just as the other participating nations are doing, to efficiently comply with this mission, the objective of which is to preserve peace." He added: "We hope this objective will be accomplished."

With respect to the crew, Ferrer said that provisions have been made for an anticipated "five-month" mission. He justified the payment of a kind of salary, which he estimated at $1,000, to the Navy men.

Concerning the trip, he confirmed that the ships will pass through the Suez Canal. He stressed that "everything has been considered in the analysis of a possible course, such as the methods, the advantage of operating with support, economic factors, and the possibility of taking a third ship, which would have increased the cost of the operation. All this has been considered. Everything has been perfectly well planned and, God willing, will be successfully carried out."

He stressed the fact that the crew is made up of professional officers and commissioned officers who are fully trained and prepared for any mission as well as personnel qualified to carry out any task aboard the two ships, which feature the most advanced technology. He noted that the operation is being conducted under "UN norms" and that the funds assigned are what is necessary for "personnel maintenance and sailing the ships on a mission of this type."

Admiral Ferrer said: "They are leaving their families for five months. In this case it is in compliance with an international rule, and they will receive a small international stipend that is nothing like the one that has been mentioned either out of ignorance or ill intent." He then said that "$10,000 has been mentioned, but in fact the amount is considerably smaller, perhaps not much more than $1,000." He asked that it be taken into account the fact that "these expenses are defrayed by the United Nations and the sums are established by the United Nations, not Argentina."

Defense Minister Dispatches Ships

PY2509181590 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
1330 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Puerto Belgrano, 25 Sep (TELAM)—Speaking on behalf of President Carlos Menem, who is also the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Defense Minister Humberto Romero today dispatched the destroyer Almirante Brown and the frigate Spiro.

Romero said: "The Argentine Government is responding to a request by the UN Security Council following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait by sending Navy, Air Force, and land units to participate in operations that seek to safeguard peace and international security.

"The assigned Argentine ships will leave today. They are the proof that Argentina is willing to assume its responsibilities before the international community, with the means available, and to join the efforts of other UN member nations.

"With this gesture, Argentina is not renouncing its traditional position of upholding peace. On the contrary, with this gesture Argentina is proving that it is able to analyze each situation within its historic context and that it understands that its immediate duty is to support that position with specific actions.

"Messrs. Commanders of the Navy units taking part in this operation:

"You will fulfill a noble and inspiring mission. The Argentine flag on your ships will fly in distant and stormy waters. The entire nation and its government will follow with great emotion your voyage and will be with you in the undertaking with which you have been entrusted.

"Messrs. Officers and crew members:

"You share the responsibility that your commanders have assumed. You have the capacity and the patriotism to fulfill that duty.

"Messrs. Commanders:

"On behalf of the president of the nation and Armed Forces commander in chief, I issue the order to weigh anchor.

"May the Lord always bless your ships."

Former Adviser Justifies Invasion of Kuwait

PY2509160890 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1408 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Sep (DYN)—Alberto Samid, provincial deputy and former presidential adviser, today said "I never imagined that President Menem would send troops" to join the blockade against Iraq and described the action as "madness." He also justified Saddam Husayn's invasion of Kuwait, which, he said, is really a former Iraqi province.

Samid said he had planned to resign today (when Argentine ships sail for the Persian Gulf) because, he said: "I understand that when an official does not agree with the government, he must leave." He thus admitted that the chief of state's decision to remove him from the Presidency "was coherent" with his ideas.

Samid avoided giving details on how he and a group of Buenos Aires Province businessmen, most of whom are of Arab origin, sent the 140-ton shipment of beef and medicine to Iraq. This incident led to his dismissal as presidential adviser.

However, the provincial deputy said, "I can only tell you that the shipment went to a third country," (although Iran denied that it had gone through its territory). Samid pointed out thanks was given for the aid in "all the Baghdad newspapers, because the Arab people are thankful."

Asked about the message national Deputy Jose Luis Manzano gave to Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, which states that more troops will be sent to the Gulf area if necessary, Samid said that Manzano's attitude is justified because "you must not forget that he is the son of Jews."

"From the point of view of his origin, I understand him," Samid said. He added that if new troops are authorized to be sent, "how will we explain to those who died in the Malvinas that we will now defend the English to allow them to continue to steal oil from the Arabs, just as they are robbing us of our fish stocks in the southern seas?"

In a conversation with Radio Continental, Samid justified the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait because "in the past Kuwait used to be a province of Iraq." When the British invaded the area in 1913, "they divided the country and established a puppet government that answers to them and sells them oil at the price they want—and even keeps its money in England."

Samid compared this situation to Argentina and said: "It is like if tomorrow we restored our economic and financial situation, what should we do after making so many claims on our south? Go and take it, because we are also being robbed." Samid then explained that he meant "our oceans, the fish resources that the British are stealing from us, and of course the Malvinas Islands; I understand that they are ours, and I am a logical man. This is why I say that Kuwait is an Iraqi province invaded by the same invader: the British pirates."

Legislators, Veterans Oppose Sending Troops

PY2609000390 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1718 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Sep (DYN)—Legislators and representatives of human rights and veteran associations at noon today staged a "symbolic" rally to reject the government's decision to send Argentine troops to the Persian Gulf and to make clear through their document that the executive decision was made "unilaterally and without consultations."

A group of slightly over 300 people held a short ceremony by the monument that honors the victims of the Malvinas conflict. The participants sang the national anthem and listened to the reading of a document which states that President Carlos Menem's decision "was made without consulting the people and or Congress."

The Justicialist Party was represented by Deputies Carlos Alvarez, Moises Fontela, Juan Pablo Cafiero, and Dario Alessandro of the dissident "Group of Eight" faction. Luis Saadi attended in a personal capacity.

Also present were Deputies Federico Storani, Gabriela Gonzalez Gass, Luis Gonzalez, Rafael Pacual, and Marcos Di Caprio of the Radical Civic Union; Simon Lazara of the Unified Socialist Party; Matilde Quarracino and Alberto Aramouni of the Christian Democratic Party; and Guillermo Estevez Boero of the Popular Socialist Party.

Graciela Fernandez Meijide from the Permanent Human Rights Assembly; veterans of the Malvinas War from the House of Veterans; and mothers of soldiers who have fallen in action and young people serving in the Army were also present.

Cafiero said they will do everything possible in Congress before the end of this regular session to ensure that the "troops are ordered back."

Cafiero added that the offer made by Justicialist Party bloc leader Jose Luis Manzano to Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti to send more troops to the Persian Gulf if necessary is a view "not shared by all the deputies."

Deputy Alvarez said that President Menem's attitude "revolves around the false aspiration to become top in the class with the set of duties that the United States has laid before him."

Deputy Storagni said the government requirement to consult with Congress before intervening only if war breaks out "is frankly ridiculous." The deputy rejected the concept that the warships are going to the Persian Gulf as a peacekeeping force because "they were loaded with Exocet missiles. It is a war blockade, and it is defined that way by the United Nations."

"Menem's position does not stand up to the slightest analysis," the legislator said, adding that they are working "to organize a popular mobilization because Congress here is powerless" to overturn the executive decision.

Storagni said that the government "does not have the slightest intention of consulting with other branches of government, and we have to make it pay the highest political price possible by mobilizing the people and making them aware that this intervention is not in their best interests."

Brazil

President Collor Addresses UN General Assembly

PY2509140090 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1413 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Speech by President Fernando Collor de Mello at the 45th United Nations General Assembly in New York on 24 September—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ... Mr. President and delegates. My compliments on your election. Your talent guarantees that our activities will be conducted with efficiency and fairness. I also want to thank your distinguished predecessor for the important task he carried out.

UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, I assure you that Brazil follows and supports the diplomatic action you have taken in the exercise of your responsibilities. We recognize your dynamic, dedicated effort for the great objectives of the United Nations. A few days ago Liechtenstein was admitted as a new member. In the name of Brazil, I wish to welcome it and wish it success in our organization.

Mr. President, this is the first time I have addressed the UN General Assembly. I am moved by the fact that this year I am inaugurating a general debate at a time when numerous and deep transformations in Brazil and throughout the world are changing concepts and preconceptions that strangled the international community for years. I have come to convey the thoughts of the Brazilian people and government on global expectations for peace, freedom, and progress, and on the role the United Nations will play in the next few years.

I am completely convinced that this forum, characterized by reflection and analysis, will necessarily see the beginning of an era we are trying to and will build, and whose success will ultimately depend on the individual and collective efforts we make for the benefit of world peace, the prosperity of nations, and growing understanding between nations.

Certain developments that have taken place in the past 12 months have changed the panorama of international relations, especially between the Eastern and Western hemispheres. Countries that until then lived under authoritarian regimes have firmly and forever taken the path toward democracy. The end of the cold war entailed the elimination of a bitter heritage of deceptions, confrontations, and risks for the very survival of the world. The lessening of international tensions has allowed us to clearly see our common future, placing emphasis on the comprehensive nature of the man-to-man and man-to-nature relationship.

Under the promising vigor of these new tendencies, we nearly allowed ourselves to experience a sense of euphoria and happiness. However, the frailness of the international order, the destabilizing effect of certain regional problems, and the seriousness of the economic problems recommends caution.

The crisis that hit Kuwait represents an unexpected, serious threat to collective peace. In the Brazilian Government's opinion, the UN Security Council resolutions, in comminatory terms, must be complied with immediately. These resolutions respond to the demands of international public opinion. These resolutions are legally backed by the UN Charter. Therefore, the parties involved have a duty to observe them, not as a sign of weakness—never—but as an unwavering legal and political duty. This seemingly will be the only fair, peaceful way to restore peace in the region and the rest of the world. All nations, we firmly believe, are deeply interested in peace and in the agile, efficient use of diplomatic means to prevent a conflict.

The UN member states have demonstrated that the law cannot be broken at a time when arms, even conventional arms, have an enormous capacity for destruction and when the international economy is a web of intertwined interests.

The member states have also reasserted their support for UN actions in a region where crises have been plaguing people who, just like everyone else, deserve peace, security, and well-being.

Brazil is particularly moved by the plight of the long-suffering Lebanese people—divided by infighting and their sovereign decisionmaking power crippled by the presence of foreign troops.

I wish to confirm that my administration firmly intends to fully enforce UN Security Council Resolution 661 within its domestic jurisdiction. The economic effects of the Security Council's decisions vary a great deal from country to country, and Brazil, which was already struggling with well-known difficulties, is among the most harmed countries outside the area of conflict.

Mr. Chairman, delegates, in keeping with the most positive trends of contemporary history, Brazil is undergoing in-depth changes in its quest for an absolute, lasting democracy, an economic opening, and social justice.

Having been elected by my fellow citizens in the cleanest elections in our history, I have accepted broad personal and political responsibilities in the eyes of 150 million Brazilians. The people have given me a mandate to

promote a swift modernization of the country and its full integration into the world economy in order to make it more competitive and allow its people to attain the levels of well-being to which they are entitled because of their talents and ability to work hard.

My commitment is to reorganize the state and society, make democratic institutions fully operational, reorganize and revitalize the economy, defeat inflation, free the creative forces of private initiative, and battle against the misery that still plagues sectors of my people. Gentlemen, it is also my duty to protect the weakest parts of society. Thus, I have placed children and youths at the top of my administration's list of priorities. It has been said time and again that children epitomize the future, and this is especially true in Brazil, which is populated by a young majority and is eager to attain modernity.

We are well aware of how tragic our problems are in this field. We do not disguise them nor do we hide our intention to face them and resolve them. The broad initiatives we have been implementing in favor of children during these six months in office demonstrate our will to turn Brazil's potential into everlasting reality.

It is in this spirit that I enthusiastically greet the initiative calling for a summit for children, which Brazil supports and in which I intend to personally participate, both actively and constructively.

Mr. President, against the backdrop of the important transformations now under way, ingrained pessimism disappears and contradictory visions are taking shape. Authoritarianism is condemned, and a political and psychological attitude is affirmed—an attitude based on a concrete advance toward freedom, democracy, and dialogue among nations. At this time, no government can exclude itself or be excluded from the debate on prospects for a world order.

In Latin America, we have, with difficulty, reached an advanced stage of democratic development and respect for human rights. We are proud of this progress, which gives us the renewed courage to advance further. In our region, as in others, women, men, and above all, children have gained new energy and hope. Latin America is again living up to its people's libertarian dream and is reconciling itself with its true democratic calling.

In Africa, the vestiges of a colonialist past are toppling as the last stronghold of segregation and racism retreats. Along with all my countrymen, I greet the independence of Namibia, which marked the end of a process my country always supported, and we express our wishes for the new state to realize its great potential. Equally, I greet the release of Nelson Mandela, which Brazil enthusiastically received, and I wish him success in his courageous struggle.

The international community's agenda has taken on global dimensions. The United Nations is facing the task of building a new structure of peace and prosperity. A world chronically divided into hostile halves can no longer be conceived. Mr. President and delegates, neither ideologies nor poverty can continue to separate mankind. The trend toward globalization is valid in all quadrants of the Earth—East, West, North, and South. Aspirations for freedom, dignity, and a better life know no boundaries. The opportunities cannot be lost, lest the East-West confrontation now rendered obsolete be replaced by a worsening North-South crisis, and new errors jeopardize the fate of international society.

The Brazilian Government is prepared to discuss guidelines for a new international structure capable of ensuring peace and promoting cooperation. Preservation of the current political and economic arrangement in the world does not seem to be sufficient, less so, a reenactment of the recent or remote past. The outmoded concept of power, the very old concept of power as the capability to destroy and as the manifestation of economic hegemony should be definitively abandoned. The practical instruments for the exercise of this concept of power must be taken apart.

Consequently, first the military alliances must be transformed in depth so that they can reflect the convergence and interdependence of the times we have just begun to live. Second, the partial process of disarmament must be expanded, assuming a general and total scope, especially in the area of nuclear and chemical weapons, thus honoring the international community's aspirations. Finally, situations of regional tension must be submitted to rigorous diplomatic and political treatment that will eradicate them as focuses of global instability.

Above all, it is absolutely necessary to articulate a modern concept of world power consisting of a revolutionary capacity for inventing, producing, and building for the benefit of all nations and all peoples.

Peace has many faces and, at the international level, it expresses the tendency that leads to democracy, participation, and representativeness. Democratization of the international order is indispensable for the establishment of a fair, solid peace that cannot be threatened by anything. Peace must mean more than the elimination of conflicts and threats. It must mean more than the hegemonic predominance of the most developed or stronger countries. To achieve that, the huge international institutions must express the new reality and be capable of adjusting to the swift, fruitful increase in contacts among states and the creation of multiple groups. An example of this overall concept of peace is the new pace of the dialogue and integration processes taking place in South America. The Amazon Region countries, the Andean Region countries, and the Southern Cone countries are attributing more and more importance to mutual understanding. In the bosom of this common effort, the Brazilian and Argentine Governments' determination to create a common market before December 1994 stands out. The Southern Cone integration process involves not only Brazil and Argentina, but also the brotherly Paraguayan, Uruguayan, and Chilean nations.

The influence of the Rio group is becoming stronger in Latin America because this group is a pioneer initiative of democratic coordination that is now reaching political maturity. Therefore, our region has the possibility of holding talks with the international economic centers—the United States, West Europe, and Japan—in a search for new opportunities for economic exchange and cooperation. The recent economic initiative launched by the U.S. Government has been positively evaluated by many Latin American countries, and it will certainly be consolidated in the next few months.

The South Atlantic peace and cooperation zone, which was created in a UN General Assembly resolution, is becoming more and more important. Now that international tension is decreasing, this zone has been bringing out new interests for the community, such as defense and preservation of the marine environment. In this field, our peace and cooperation zone can play a pioneer role at the international level if it is granted more decided financial and technological cooperation.

Messrs. UN chairman and delegates, Brazil has ratified the Tlatelolco Treaty and at international forums, has reasserted its respect for this treaty and other similar international agreements. Recently, Brazil and Argentina publicly announced that implementation of the Tlatelolco Treaty is being intensively discussed by the interested parties. This treaty, which is a pioneer Latin American initiative in the field of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, has preceded any other regional or international effort in this regard.

I believe, Messrs. chairman and delegates, that it is time to seek more ambitious goals. The Brazil of today rules out the idea of conducting any tests that may involve nuclear explosions, even for peaceful means, and Brazil expects other countries to consider following this example.

Mr. Chairman, Brazil is interested in all changes aimed at consolidating freedom and democracy, strengthening true peace and international security, putting an end to old myths, and reconciling effectiveness with justice. Not all that has happened in the international scenario looks toward the future. The power structures, for example, have not been affected at their core. We can even fear increased international economic and political stratification due to discrimination in allowing access to scientific and technological knowledge.

Disarmament efforts are still in an embryonic stage, and their diplomatic handling has never been so detached from multilateral forums. Military episodes in various parts of the world also show that many regional security problems have yet to be solved. Unfortunately, xenophobic and racist outbreaks are recurrently happening in some areas. By no means, however, do we give up our optimism, Messrs. chairman and delegates. As we well know, history will not be rewritten. We believe that in the face of the overall challenges of modern life, humanity will advance toward peaceful and productive ways of coexisting despite the difficulties and hardships that may arise in its path. The new international structure must be a real advance toward the pursuit of human happiness. We are not doomed to further political confrontation and violence. A promising agenda is being announced. Not only is the reactivation of economic development and international cooperation included in this agenda, but it also contemplates absolute guarantees for all human rights—be they political, economic, or social. It calls for coordinated preservation of the environment worldwide, and for an antinarcotics trafficking fight.

As East-West tensions disappear, new guidelines for the international economic order are being energetically discussed. The cruel, I repeat, cruel rules and mechanisms of trade protectionism and government-controlled trade [comercio administrado] are still being used. To the detriment of the weakest economies, sectors only open up a little, but always with rigid respect for the reciprocity principle.

It is disquieting to see the effort to obtain economic and trade freedom coexisting with the neoprotectionist wave. Brazil, which hopes for the establishment of an open international economy, is taking part in the Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations being conducted at the GATT. Brazil trusts that these negotiations will correct the disorders and shortcomings still existing in international trade. The subsidies for exports and domestic support measures adopted by developed countries have reached exaggerated levels and have seriously harmed the developing countries that could increase the supply of agricultural and agroindustrial products to the international market.

It is deplorable that, through an arsenal of protectionism, the developed countries are today jeopardizing increased food production in a world in which undernourishment is affecting a large percentage of mankind.

With solid hopes, we trust that the various negotiations held within the Uruguay Round of talks will yield balanced results. Let these talks be instrumental in strengthening the multilateral system and in dispensing with restrictive trends. We do not want the differences between the North and South to remain forever or for free competition to continue to be artificially inhibited.

Because of the well-known difficulties existing within and among the main economic powers, we face the risk that megablocs will not take into account global interests, the interests of the whole, or the logic of economic opening, but could instead degenerate into real trade fortresses.

Two challenges could make this problem worse: The first deals with the orderly absorption of East European countries into the world market. This comprehensive, positive process should not disrupt traditional trade and investment trends between countries of the North and

South; it also should not create new traumas that could worsen the already precarious situation of developing countries.

The second challenge stems from the still radical economic inequality among nations, a situation that poses one of the most serious obstacles to fully developing the socioeconomic forces on the world level. The subject of economic development and international cooperation should be at the top of the multilateral agenda.

In Brazil we are developing a vast, coherent program of socioeconomic reforms which, in order to be promptly implemented, now require foreign resources on favorable terms to yield mutual benefits. The measures we have adopted are already reversing a painful economic situation; they have been instrumental in creating conditions for immediately resuming international cooperation with our country, Brazil.

We trust that our main developed partners will be responsive to our efforts. We want to take full advantage of this time, in which new concepts are replacing old ones in so many areas. Brazil is seeking to play its full role in building world peace and cooperation. Incidentally, by adopting the Declaration of International Economic Cooperation in May, this forum recognized through the unanimous voice of its member states that the strengthening of the economies of developing countries is the most significant challenge of the new decade.

Brazil is seeking economic efficiency and hopes that the economies of each developing country will be productive. This objective will be achieved if the world economy is better organized. This is a responsibility that should be shared by all countries. The persistence of hunger, the lack of basic necessities, and extreme economic need in various areas will ultimately have global effects through situations like environmental destruction, the systematic violation of human rights, and the illegal production and trafficking of drugs. The living conditions and morale of all societies are thus disastrously disturbed.

If civil liberties and political pluralism prevailed in the past decade, I can say that it was a cruel and parsimonious time for social and economic development. This is crucial for the consolidation of democratic institutions. The tremendous efforts being made by so many developing nations have been annulled by the large and continuous transfer abroad of resources essential for economic investment and growth.

A definite solution to the foreign debt problem must be urgently sought because it is essential for the future of developing countries, especially in Latin America. The economic recovery of our peoples is imperative and inevitable. It cannot and must not be put aside.

All initiatives for the stabilization and modernization of the economies of developing nations, and especially for their greater integration in the international economy, will be undermined by the foreign debt problem should it continue under current policies. A serious, frank, and creative dialogue is essential to finding international solutions that will allow us to resume the growth and development of our countries and to improve the social well-being of our peoples.

Mr. President and delegates, the second most important issue on the new international agenda is the environment. From this rostrum I want to invite everyone to come to Brazil in 1992 for the UN Conference on Environment and Development. It will surely be the most important international meeting of this century because it is an issue of vital importance for mankind and because of the expected participation of important people, although not necessarily from the government sector.

I want to invite all chiefs of state and all heads of governments to attend this conference. Brazil is waiting for you and will receive you with a warm welcome. That meeting will allow the overall concern over the environment issue to be outlined and the signing of agreements based on the shared responsibility of all international players. To achieve this, governments must assume their responsibilities and reassess their objectives.

Brazil is ready to assume this responsibility and has already been assuming this responsibility, hoping that other countries will do the same. We are resolutely confronting Brazil's ecological problems. Notwithstanding the serious economic difficulties, the serious social problems, and the enormous size of our territory, the Government and people of Brazil are already making a tremendous effort in the environmental sector, an effort as extensive as those being made by other countries.

While we are increasing ecological control, we are also trying to divide the country into zones, especially the Amazon region, to scientifically outline the large areas that must be fully preserved and those that must be saved, on different levels and under strict discipline, for economic development.

Brazil, as with other developing nations, needs to have access to technologies that will help eliminate damage to the environment and technologies that must be demonstrated to be safe.

These technologies must be used to benefit all countries. At the international level, we must urgently create financial conditions that allow the application of these technologies in competitive terms. The countries that have historically contributed most to environmental contamination are more responsible for the solution of this problem.

By making the transference of these technologies and resources easier, these countries will perform a crucially important role in correcting the current tableau of ecological catastrophe that the current generation—my generation—has unfairly inherited. We will neither avoid these problems nor fail to find the correct solution to

them. We are not trying to monopolize or concentrate benefits; we must spread them out as much as possible. Our spirit of equanimity makes us hope that the most developed countries will contribute most to the solution to environmental problems. In no way, not even indirectly, should this contribution increase the gap between the wealthy and poor countries. What we need in this case is more solidarity. We need international solidarity in the use of modern and inexpensive technologies.

Mr. Chairman and delegates, aware that the production of, access to, and use of technology constitute a new and necessary economic model, Brazil cannot fail to express its profound concern over the barriers that are still being built against the free exchange of technology. The possibility of our joining the dynamic nucleus of international economy is being jeopardized. The countries that are behind in the technological field will also be behind in the new international division of labor, which will be defined by the technological progress of countries. The international barriers reflect the hardships of a policy that virtually isolates the countries that are behind in an industrial sense. The Brazilian Government's concern over the issue is understandable not only because Brazil has one of the highest levels of technological development among the developing countries, but also because we are now living in an entirely democratic country. The institutions in Brazil are free and in full activity, and the administration is unconditionally faithful to the law and to its international obligations.

Mr. Chairman, I could not fail to refer to the importance given in our common agenda to the topic of human rights. With the spreading of democratic ideals, the international handling of this issue will be more incisive and thorough. Brazil resolutely supports this tendency. We believe we are about to make solid progress on this issue. All human rights violations must be vigorously denounced and fought against, wherever they may take place.

One of my fundamental concerns in this field is to preserve the lifestyle and habits of the Indian communities in Brazil. My administration has adopted drastic measures during my first six months in office, showing an absolute respect and unfaltering desire to protect the rights of our Indians. We will have to do much more than that, however, and we will.

The international community can contribute to creating, worldwide, the indispensable conditions to ensure respect for human rights in their broadest sense. New obligations have now been imposed on all countries, and they have to give all peoples more freedom to move from one country to the other.

All kinds of discrimination against foreigners must be eliminated. The rights of foreigners must be protected. Human rights must be better understood as a whole, without artificial distinctions among the various aspects.

Mr. Chairman and delegates, all the characteristics of the new international structure point to the growth of the United Nations. Even before the United Nations celebrates its 50th anniversary, we can foresee important institutional changes in the organization aimed at reflecting, in multilateral diplomacy, the international realities that have been appearing everywhere. The world was not frozen in the year 1945; over the last 12 months, it has been getting ready to begin a new historical stage. The United Nations, in particular, has been showing signs of more diplomatic energy, although in certain cases the renewed tendency of the permanent members of the Security Council to act in blocs does not seem to be enough to orient the institutional redefinition of our organization and its own council.

To enable the United Nations—the most important and maybe the only political forum of international influence—to meet the current challenges, the organization will have to revert to the original political intentions in its charter, which have often been misinterpreted, including in recent times. These intentions show a clear balance between the prerogatives of the permanent members of the Security Council and the preservation of the sovereign equality among the member countries. This final fundamental principle must be observed in the negotiation processes of all UN organizations, including the council.

To prevent the new multilateralism from becoming a sterile formula or a disguise for a more profound political crisis, it must be really innovative and faithful to the principle of representativeness. The past weeks have given not only direct and dramatic examples of the globalization of international relations systems but also of their vulnerability and instability. Never before, Mr. Chairman, have politics and diplomacy been so necessary in the multilateral sphere as now.

Mr. Chairman and delegates, in the international order, the concern over effectiveness and the ever-increasing calls for further participation and more fairness are added to the building of new political and economic structures. All the delegations present in this room are united in the pursuit of a modern model applicable to all nations and in which the face of men can be recognized.

What we want deep down is a world of peace, cooperation, prosperity, and justice. We want this world to be built in accordance with the important principles of international law. We want our peoples to see on the horizon the best future they can hope for, the best future they deserve, and the best future they will undoubtedly try to ensure for themselves. Mr. Chairman and delegates, may the Lord help us achieve that. Thank you very much. [applause]

Collor Discusses U.S. Relations in Interview

PY2609131590 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 0343 GMT 26 Sep 90

["Exclusive" interview with President Fernando Collor de Mello by Paulo Enrique Amorim in New York; date not given—recorded]

[Amorim] What do you expect from your meeting with President George Bush next Sunday? What if President Bush asks Brazil to become involved militarily in the blockade against Iraq and asks Brazil to send a warship to the Gulf? What would you say?

[Collor] No. First, I would say absolutely no. Second, I am sure that President Bush, knowing the Brazilian Government and knowing me as he does, would never make such a request.

[Amorim] When the Persian Gulf crisis is over and we verify that it is not the end of Brazil or Iraq and that the world will continue to revolve, will Brazil maintain the same close trade relations involving weapons with Iraq as it did in the past?

[Collor] We must establish the differences in Brazil's relations with Iraq. There used to be a formal relationship, the obvious one, and an informal one, which was nearly clandestine. For example, when it is said that Brazil has armed Iraq, that is not true. If we list the weapons Iraq has, we can verify that only zero point zero something percent is Brazilian materiel.

[Amorim] Mr. President, it is suspected that a retired Brazilian Armed Forces officer has participated in sensitive projects in Iraq and that he might have helped to build an atomic bomb in that country. He is Brazilian.

[Collor] Regarding the exportation of that materiel, it was made in a clear, straightforward way. Brazil naturally feels gratified since its technology has proved to be competitive in other markets like in Iraq. It is important to know, however, that we did not arm Iraq. We did not sell super fighter planes, bombers, missiles, or chemical weapons to Iraq. The developed world armed Iraq. So these were our formal relations. The informal relations are exactly those you just mentioned.

[Amorim] Brigadier Piva.

[Collor] Former Brigadier Piva, who retired from the Air Force, established a company, which is absolutely legal within Brazilian law. However, this situation is regrettable. This is why I will send a draft bill to Congress to create certain restrictions on Brazilian public officials who, having had access to privileged information in carrying out their activities with the government, will be forbidden to supply services to any private organization, especially a foreign one, after they retire. I think this law must be implemented to safeguard national interests.

[Amorim] Relations between Brazil and the United States have never been as good as during your administration. The most important problem in our relations with the United States, however, is the foreign debt issue. Are you satisfied with what the U.S. Government has done with the Brazilian foreign debt?

[Collor] The U.S. President has given very positive signals that his government understands that it is necessary to reschedule the debt, whether by reducing interest rates or the principal—a proposal not regarded very highly by the private creditor banks—or by establishing new financing mechanisms for our economies. In all, he has demonstrated a positive and constructive position regarding the foreign debt issue.

[Amorim] Is there a possibility of Brazil making some payments to the banks this year? Another question: Is it possible for the country to be integrated into the First World—which is your constant concern—and to still resist paying the debt? Why doesn't Brazil do what Mexico has done, for instance?

[Collor] What we are doing is negotiating the debt. Standing on one side are the lenders who want to get their money back at the highest possible interest rate in the shortest time possible; on the other side are those who owe and want to pay the lowest possible interest rate over the longest time possible. What Brazil has to do is defend its national interest; that is, we cannot pay the foreign debt now and wait to grow later. It is not a matter of knowing how much we will grow after paying the foreign debt but of knowing how much we can pay after ensuring our economic development.

[Amorim] I gather from your explanation that it will be very difficult for private bankers to get a cent from Brazil this year.

[Collor] It will be exciting; the negotiations will be very exciting. I believe that all of us stand to gain a lot of experience in the operations of the international financial system. I believe that we will have a very positive experience in this area.

[Amorim] In your talk at THE NEW YORK TIMES yesterday you mentioned several times the fact that you are a man of the new generation. What are the political consequences of the fact that you are a 41-year-old man, that you belong to another generation, and that you come to New York and lay a rose on the plaque for John Lennon in Central Park? How should this be read in a political sense? Why is this important from a political standpoint?

[Collor] It is a different world, right? Our generation is inaugurating a new form of coexistence with power in Brazil. In the past, power was exercised as a form of asserting the state, and the citizens and society were forgotten. Our generation understands that power should be exercised in a way that strengthens the citizens, not the state. This why I said at THE NEW YORK TIMES yesterday that what took place in Brazil was much more than a change of president; it was the arrival of a new generation with a new outlook, with a new understanding of what our purpose is in this world, of what we want from the world, of what we want to build, and of what we want to leave for future generations. My generation is interested in peace and in the construction of a unified world; it does not want to hear about atomic bombs. This is a generation that can appreciate peace, a green planet instead of a devastated one. This is a generation that dreams of a new world.

Military Projects Priority in Nuclear Program

PY2509222590 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Sep 90 p A 8

[Report by Regina Eleuterio and Ricardo Julio]

[Text] Since its inception in the late 1970's, the Parallel Nuclear Program has gained importance within government policy to the point that the National Nuclear Energy Program (Pronen) has suggested that $2.0 billion (nearly 172 billion cruzeiros in the parallel market) be invested solely in military projects.

Just because President Fernando Collor has decided to fill in a well where nuclear weapons were to have been tested in the Cachimbo Base, Southern Para state, it does not mean that the Parallel Nuclear Program has stopped. The Armed Forces continue their research in secret, free from the international safeguards against producing nuclear bombs. In the report submitted to President Collor de Mello, the Pronen work group (GT-Pronen) recommended that priority be given to the uranium enrichment projects that uses ultracentrifuges (Navy) and laser rays (Air Force).

The Navy project at the Aramar Experimental Center in Ipero, Sao Paulo state is the furthest advanced. The Navy is also beginning a project to construct the first Brazilian nuclear submarine by 1992.

The Army Technological Center (Cetex) in Guaratiba, Rio de Janeiro state, is working on a graphite-moderated nuclear reactor (which generates plutonium). Plutonium, the by-product of the spent nuclear fuel, is the key element for manufacturing the atomic bomb. The Army denies any intention of building the atomic bomb.

The Air Force came even closer to building the atomic bomb. The Advanced Studies Institute (IEAv) in Sao Jose dos Campos, Sao Paulo state, is losing its experts to more attractive salaries elsewhere. Early in the 1980, the laser-ray method was considered the fastest route to enriched uranium. With the exodus of experts and a 40-percent budget cut, the laser-ray enrichment project was shelved.

Military surveillance nevertheless continues to be tight. For the past five years, journalists have not been allowed to enter the IEAv installations, which includes three floors underground and an atomic fallout shelter.

The Persian Gulf conflict and the speculation about Brazilian-Iraqi nuclear cooperation have persuaded President Collor de Mello to postpone a decision on the report submitted by the GT-Pronen. The report suggesting targets for the National Nuclear Energy Program has been in the Strategic Affairs Secretariat for the past two months, awaiting a final approval from the president.

Argentine Envoy Responds to Gulf Complaint

PY2609031090 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Sep 90 p 9

[Text] Brasilia—Argentine Ambassador to Brazil Jose Manuel de La Sota said yesterday that "the sending of Argentine troops to the Persian Gulf has absolutely not changed the excellent relations between Brasilia and Buenos Aires." The ambassador's remarks were apparently made in answer to an observation that Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek made to President Menem's envoy, Raul Carignano, on 21 September. On that occasion Rezek complained that the government in Buenos Aires did not give Brazil any previous information on sending Argentine troops to the Middle East.

* Traits, Views of Environment Secretary Defined

90SM0267A Sao Paulo ISTOE in Portuguese 29 Aug 90 pp 38-40

[Article by Ilara Viotti]

[Text] One of the best-known Brazilian ecologists, Jose Lutzenberger, national secretary of the environment, departed on Wednesday, 22 August for Nairobi, Kenya to attend, along with other world authorities on the subject, a preparatory meeting for the Second United Nations Conference on "Environment and Development," to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. A week earlier, Lutzenberger could be seen near his official residence in the Brasilia National Park, scolding two workers who were searching for a dog. "Leave the dog alone," ordered the irate Lutzenberger. The two young men disappeared into the woods without having a chance to explain to the boss that the dog, like others from the neighborhood, kept coming into the park to feast on the local wildlife.

Ever since he arrived at the first echelon of the Collor administration, Jose Lutzenberger, 63, has been hard-pressed to maintain the bureaucratic routines associated with that kind of power. For example, he detests signing the dozens of documents the ministry produces. "Normally, he hands that task over to his deputy," an adviser reveals. He also becomes irritated when besieged by the press or people who just want to meet him. "No one wants to talk with my advisers, only with me, even when the matter is not important. I cannot get any work done that way," he complains. In contrast to his colleagues on the top echelon who do fulfill the routine tasks associated with their position—some with undisguised pleasure—,Lutzenberger hates anything that reeks of bureaucracy.

In his first month in Brasilia, while living in a room in the Eron Hotel, he anguished over the prospect of having to occupy one of the immense, but barren, official apartments in the city's finest buildings. "He was extremely restless," relates his daughter, Lara, 20, a future biologist and his father's adviser.

He escaped from his distress during a Sunday walk at the end of March, when he discovered "a ridiculous, run-down" house, as he himself described it, situated in the middle of 33,000 hectares of the city park. The house contains almost no furniture, as befits the austere lifestyle of its occupant. But it is surrounded by woods: "It is just the right house for him," says his daughter. Since then, Lutzenberger has been thinking up projects for the grounds of the residence. Daily cleaning of the stone-lined swimming pool, which is fed by the region's highly pure mineral water, was suspended on his orders: "I am going to build a little ecosystem here," he says. "After two days of not being cleaned, it already has some mud," he commented. In buckets near the pool, plants patiently gathered by the secretary along the streams in the park are still waiting to become part of the little ecosystem. Some of them, like the floating "pistia" or the water lettuce, came from Rio Grande do Sul. From the Botanical Garden in Rio de Janeiro, Lutzenberger ordered a specimen of Chinese lotus: "It might look pretty in the middle of the pool," he suggested. The secretary has still not decided what kind of fish to put in with the plants. "Not those little red ones," he said, disparagingly. "The simpler and more natural, the better."

To the despair of park employees, Lutzenberger has turned their daily routine upside down. As soon as he arrived, he declared war against removing the dry leaves from the ground. At this time of the year, Brasilia is covered with dry leaves. They used to be swept up and thrown away, which is "absurd" in the eyes of the ecologist: "The decomposition of the dry leaves protects the soil and gives it new fertilizer," he teaches the local gardeners, who are accustomed to absolute cleanliness. Lutzenberger's mornings have been spent reading, making a few technical decisions, and visiting the savannahs. "Everyone is worried about the Amazon region, but the savannahs also need to be preserved," he notes.

Coat-and-tie occasions have been reduced to the absolute minimum. Lutzenberger is still irritated by the daily life of a high government official. Contacts with the press are particularly annoying to him. Sought out at home by ISTOE SENHOR, he at first reacted impatiently: "But I came out here to be left alone, I cannot work this way." The secretary laments the absence of privacy: "If I had privacy, I could even take a sunbath." He wanted to know what the press wants with him, but he hastens to come up with his one theory: "I know, I know—no one wants to hear about the technical things, all you are interested in is Zelia's romances." His daughter, Lara, explains that "My father's resistance to dealing with people comes from his need to devote himself more and more to his work. Ever since the 1970's, when he became well-known, it has been very hard to maintain a schedule without constant, time-consuming, interruptions," notes the daughter-adviser.

The Brasilia press is especially bothersome to the environment secretary. His first unpleasant experience came at the end of March. "We exchanged a few sentences in German during a press conference, and this seems to have offended some journalists," Lara recalls. "We always speak German at home; it was the clever way my father devised to make us grow up bilingual." Since then, Lutzenberger has preferred to talk to the foreign press. Temperamental, the secretary escapes annoyances by shutting himself up at home or taking walks on the savannahs during his few free hours, but confesses that his mission in the government is not an easy one: "I cannot get work done, it has been very stressful, and I have had nightmares," he complains. Some benefits, however, offer consolation. Of the dozens of letters he receives from all over the world, some of them, like the ones from England's Prince Charles, are special to him. He usually recounts his ecological experiences in long letters. "Sometimes the prince writes just to say that he found a species of ant somewhere in England," an adviser said.

Lutzenberger travels to Porto Alegre less often than he would like. "When he gets there, the first thing he does is to find out how his collection of cactus and bromelia is doing," says his daughter. "He wants to see that none has died, and that they are well taken care of." The collection in his home gets no more attention from the secretary than any other plant he happens to sight. On the first of his incursions into the gardens at the Secretariat of the Environment, early in March, Lutzenberger rescued some little eggplant seedlings from the hands of a gardener who was using the pesticide Diazenon on them. "The secretary took the bag of pesticide out of my helper's hands, put it in his pocket, and took it away," reports "mister" Francisco Miguel de Freitas, gardener at Ibama/Sema for eight years now. "No sooner said than done. Now I use only powdered rope tobacco dissolved in water." Every week the secretary makes a sort of inspection tour around the gardens cared for by "mister" Francisco, recommends alternative methods, and monitors the use of chemical products on the soil. "Demanding, a stickler for detail, and temperamental," are some of the adjectives used by his closest advisers to describe the secretary. But it is also common to hear more complimentary phrases such as, "He's a genius, he's very able, and he's a dear."

When not prevented by the obligations of his position, Lutzenberger is a keen observer of nature, for which he has traces of affection. Last month he produced a long article on Gaia, a foundation of which he is a member. Its premise is that the Earth, all of it, is a single living being. The article, published in REVISTA FLORESTAL, contains technical observations, scientific reasoning to support the idea, and an infinity of numbers and descriptions of chemical processes. On explaining the mechanism by which plants and animals cooperate, the secretary could not help coming out with: "The seed of a little figgie germinates only after passing through the stomach of some bird."

That is the way Lutzenberger is. The seed is not a fig seed, it is a figgie seed. He has no burning ambitions and admits that because of the workload, being national secretary of the environment gives him nightmares. He

regrets not having enough privacy for a sunbath and is capable of spending several minutes thinking out loud how to reproduce the conditions of nature in his little ecosystem. In his office, in that ridiculous and nearly empty house—"I do not have time to be there"—the greenery is beyond the walls, unconfined to vases, the way he likes it. To those who bother him, he customarily shows an expressionless face, an appearance of great haste, and leaves a clear impression that he wants to get away as soon as possible. And so he is once again free to go out on the savannahs, where he does not hesitate to pick up off the ground a plastic container that some ill-advised tourist dropped in the woods, saying to himself: "You must not leave trash in a park like this. People have to learn that."

[Box, p 39]

Spokesman For Nature

Respected worldwide for his opinions and respect for life and for nature, Jose Lutzenberger is always thinking out loud. Never reluctant to call a spade a spade, he surprises the unwary by the tone he uses. He talks softly but, with expansive gestures, conveys his message incisively. Here are some of the ideas and opinions he has expressed since he became part of the administration.

- Life: "I am coming to the conclusion that people prefer commercial things over natural ones."
- Government: "I could not refuse to become part of the government after having preached for so long about the need for some government action in the defense of nature."
- Pesticides: "Modern agronomy would not be using all these poisons if it had not forgotten that disease attacks only the sick, imbalanced, and poorly adjusted hosts. Parasitic organisms are yet another hurdle in the natural selection process."
- Science: "When I look at the work of molecular biologists, who are delving further and further into the dance of the macro-molecules, genes, and chromosomes without paying attention to the organism as a whole, it makes me think of someone who, wanting to get to know and understand the magnificent European railroad system, limits himself to studying, through a microscope, the letters on the timetables in those thick schedule books."
- Research: "When NASA was building the first unmanned spacecraft that would land on Mars, it could have saved all the money it spent on automatic devices that collected and analyzed the soil of that planet to see if it contained some form of microlife, even if more simpler than the simplest of our bacteria."
- Naturalists: "There are plenty of biologists, but it gets harder and harder to find naturalists. The naturalist seeks integration, harmony, preservation, perfection, aesthetic contemplation. He is on the same plane as the artist, the composer, the orchestra conductor, and the sculptor, but he works within the scientific field, in a pure dialogue with nature."
- The Earth: "The planet Earth is a living being, a living entity with its own identity, and the only one of its species that we know about."

Chile

Murder of Journalist Linked to Iraq Deal

PY2609003090 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Today Fifth Criminal Court Judge Alejandro Solis received a detailed report from Air Force prosecutor Hernan Varaona on the activities of British journalist (Jonathan Moil) in Chile. The British journalist was found dead in his room at the Carrera Hotel on 31 March, and the police have not been able to determine if it was a suicide or homicide.

According to reliable sources, the report submitted by Varaona includes details of a meeting (Moil) held during an exclusive trip to Punta Arenas. The trip, hosted by the Air Force, was extended to special guests visiting the last Air and Space Fair, Fidae. (Moil) was the only journalist accredited for the trip.

According to reports in British and French newspapers, it was during this trip that (Moil) learned something that resulted in his presumed murder. According to the reports, (Moil) learned of a deal involving helicopters that were to be sold to the Iraqi Government by the Chilean firm Cardoens. According to sources, the helicopters were equipped with state-of-the-art missile guidance equipment, and (Moil) was murdered because he learned about the deal. The reports further stated that the murderers were Iraqi secret agents.

The managers of Cardoens, and Carlos Cardoens himself, have repeatedly denied these reports. Cardoens also testified before Judge Solis and again denied the reports.

Foreign Ministry Official Returns From Europe

PY2609010390 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 19 Sep 90 pp C1, C6

[Excerpts] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Edmundo Vargas has arrived at the Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport at the end of a visit to five European countries. He visited the Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and the FRG. He said: "Our relations with the FRG have been good and they continue to be good." He added that "the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl is resolutely supporting the Chilean democratic process and the government of Patricio Aylwin."

Regarding the remarks made by General Pinochet on the German Army, he said: "I did not even mention this subject. It is obvious, from what they told me and the warm welcome they gave me, that the FRG Government wants to maintain the best possible relations with the government of President Aylwin." [passage omitted]

Vargas is the first Chilean Government official, except for Chilean ambassadors, to have visited Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia. He arrived a little past 1100 yesterday on a flight from Germany, and was welcomed at the airport by his wife and the chief of his ministry staff. [passage omitted]

Regarding the Persian Gulf crisis, Vargas said that it was an obvious subject in his agenda of talks with all ministers. He said that Europe views with great concern aspects of security and the economic situation that will result from the petroleum price increase: "In every country where I held meetings, they expressed their resolute support for Resolutions 660, 661, and 662 of the U.N. Security Council, as does Chile."

Four More PCCh Militants Expelled From Party

PY2509232990 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 16 Sep 90 p C4

[Text] Valparaiso—Four more well-known militants of the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] from the Valparaiso area have been expelled from the party. They are PCCh leaders Fernando Tassara, Sady Jovi, Anibal Riquelme, and Oscar Hormazabal, who follow in the footsteps of Luis Guastavino and Alejandro Valenzuela who have also been expelled.

Apartheid Practices Criticized at UN Meeting

PY2509233790 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Sep 90 p C5

[Text] Speaking on behalf of our country at a United Nations meeting that reviewed the apartheid issue, Fernando Cisternas, minister counselor to the Chilean Permanent Representative at the United Nations, described as "timid and insufficient" the steps taken by South Africa to end apartheid.

Cisternas said that "there is still a lot for the Chilean delegation to do to ensure that the path taken will not present insurmountable obstacles or unacceptable deviations."

Cisternas said that the South African Government and its political leaders have not yet begun the most important and significant stages that will lead the country to a fully democratic system.

Cisternas also regretted that South Africa has still not demonstrated the required political will to vigorously convince white South Africans to accept new forms of national coexistence.

Mapu-Lautaro Movement Releases Pamphlet

PY2509202790 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 18 Sep 90 p C-4

[Text] In a pamphlet datelined August, the "Mapu-Lautaro" subversive movement has expressed its decision to begin a campaign to take power as soon as possible. The pamphlet says that the group has weapons and "more than 500,000 subversives and revolutionaries."

This announcement is included in a pamphlet entitled "To Win the Power of Happiness," [A Ganar el Poder de la Felicidad] and is subtitled "For Subversives Only."

The cover of the pamphlet features a drawing of a hooded man with a rifle and some children playing.

The terrorists state that during their national plenum the Mapu and Lautaro "organization" committed itself to solve the matter of power as soon as possible, and at the latest within 10 years.

The pamphlet says: "The Mapu, the MJL [Lautaro Youth Movement], and the FRPL [Lautaro Rebel and Popular Forces] always do what they promise. We are serious, and we will meet our objective at any cost."

They added that the policy toward the national reconciliation, as implemented by President Aylwin and his administration, has frustrated the hopes "of the whole people, and the rebels, subversives, and revolutionaries."

Government Minimizes Report on Lautaro Recruiting

PY2609005090 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] According to the government, the Lautaro group has no more than 1,000 members. The National Federation of High School Students has reported that the Lautaro group has recruited approximately 5,000 young students.

On this matter, acting Interior Minister Belisario Velasco has stated that unfortunately, this group has committed criminal actions. This allows me to call on all parents and students not to risk their own lives in criminal actions that will be fought with all necessary measures.

According to the government, this group must be studied. The acting interior minister provided all the appropriate information about this group's actions, stating:

[Begin Velasco recording] We believe this group must be studied and its actions considered responsibly. This group began to organize at the beginning of 1981 with the objective, as they claim, of fighting an authoritarian regime.

Currently, they are absolutely outdated and far from their original objective. However, we feel the Lautaro group's situation must be analyzed seriously and responsibly. I also want to say that in the statement made yesterday by PPD, Party for Democracy, youth leaders, the same problem is discussed, referring to this group in more realistic terms.

According to figures released by the Carabineros and investigative police, and the Interior Ministry itself, the

group is reportedly made up of several hundred youths, considering that several establishments belong to this group. [end recording]

Basically, Velasco said, the Lautaro group is operating in Santiago, Concepcion, and Valparaiso. He added that the government will repress this group to prevent future actions.

Officers Club Building Transferred to Presidency

PY2509235390 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Sep 90 pp A1, A6

[Excerpt] National Defense Minister Patricio Rojas yesterday reported that the premises used by the Army Officers Club in Lo Curro district has been transferred to the Presidency of the Republic.

This large modern residence, which was meant to have become the House of Chilean Presidents [La Casa de los Presidentes de Chile], had been transferred to the Army a few months ago, and now a final decision on this matter has been made.

Minister Rojas pointed out that this Thursday [13 September] the National Patrimony Ministry submitted the pertinent instruments, and then reported the government's decision to General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, the Army Commander in Chief, through a note in response to a similar note—of a confidential nature—that had been signed by the military chief. [passage omitted]

Joint Bolivian Chamber of Commerce Created

PY2609020090 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 20 Sep 90 p C-9

[Summary] A Chilean-Bolivian Chamber of Commerce has been created. It will be based in Santiago, and one of its main objectives will be to study and promote cooperation and trade between the two countries.

Colombia

President Requests Return of Abducted Journalists

PA2509143890 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Statement by President Cesar Gaviria at the Narino Presidential Palace in Bogota—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ....the prompt return of those who are not with us today. Our response is our solidarity. I urge all Colombians to express their solidarity. Today, let us help our journalists defend the freedom of the press, which has been seriously threatened. To hold a journalist against his will is the same as subjecting him to censorship and preventing him from exercising his right to freedom of expression. To hold a journalist against his will is also an act of intimidation against all journalists. Let us go out and defend the freedom of the press and all the rights we have achieved throughout our history, because they are our country's most precious goods and our nation's very soul. Let us also defend our right to live, work, and build Colombia's future in peace.

Finally, I want to reiterate my commitment and my administration's commitment to making every effort and to using our best resources so that the journalists, for whom our outcry is heard today, may soon return. We want them to know that we are all waiting for them.

Government Talks With Drug Dealers Denied

PA2509170290 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1835 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] Bogota, 23 Sep (DPA)—In a note published by the Bogota newspaper EL ESPECTADOR on 23 September, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo clarifies that the Colombian Government is neither talking "nor having any type of contact" with the Colombian cocaine dealers.

With that note, President Gaviria Trujillo responded to a recent EL ESPECTADOR editorial, which among other things, wondered whether the executive branch was "holding secret talks" with the chiefs of the drug cartels.

According to EL ESPECTADOR, which has maintained a brave position in confronting the mafia, the government decree authorizing the reduction of sentences for criminals who turn themselves in to the authorities and admit their crimes amounts to the government "surrendering, denying the rule of law, and silently permitting the prevalence of crime."

After rejecting those statements, Gaviria Trujillo stressed that "terrorism has neither defeated the state nor the people's will to struggle against it."

Over the past few days, alleged drug traffickers abducted seven journalists and the sister of a Colombian ambassador and former high-ranking presidential official. The newspaper EL ESPECTADOR believes that these actions began "the moment the government extended its hands to narcoterrorism and subversion."

Gaviria Trujillo, who promised "to make every possible effort" to rescue the people held by the criminals, said that "anything can be presumed, except that the government is holding talks or having any kind of contact with criminal organizations."

Meanwhile, police operations to locate Marina Montoya, sister of German Montoya, former Presidency secretary and current Colombian ambassador to Canada, and Francisco Santos, chief editor of the Bogota newspaper EL TIEMPO, kidnapped by gunmen on 19 September, continued today.

Although an alleged Medellin Cartel spokesman claimed responsibility for the abductions on 20 September, the

government has indicated that there is no certainty about which organization kidnapped these people.

On 22 September, private station Radio Caracol reported that it had received a communique from The Extraditables (the armed branch of the narcocriminal organization) rejecting the decree on the reduction of sentences, reiterating that they will not turn themselves in to the authorities, and denying the statements made by the man who held them responsible for the kidnappings, although they neither confirmed nor denied holding Montoya and Santos.

The Presidency warned the public "about the proliferation of communiques, the true authors of which there is no absolute clarity."

Another four journalists—German citizen Hero Buss and Colombians Diana Turbay, Azucena Lievano, and Juan Vitta—and two cameramen of television's Cripton newscast who left Bogota on 29 August to interview the chiefs of the leftist guerrilla movements, have been officially reported missing, and the authorities have absolutely no idea of their whereabouts.

The conservative newspaper LA PRENSA has stated that these journalists are also in the hands of the Medellin Cartel, which "could be planning another strategy to force the government to discuss the issue of extraditing drug traffickers in the National Constituent Assembly (which will be convened in January 1991)."

Government, Quintin Lame Rebels Reach Agreement

PA2609011990 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Sep 90 p 6A

["Text" of the agreement between the Quintin Lame guerrilla group and the Government signed in Cauca Department on 15 September]

[Text] The national government and the Quintin Lame armed movement, which met in Cauca Department's northeastern area on 14 September 1990, state:

1. The Quintin Lame armed group is not satisfied with the lack of Indian participation in the National Constituent Assembly and confirms that it will not support or take part in the assembly as it currently stands. Nevertheless, Quintin Lame affirms its resolve to remain within the peace process developed with the national government and not to condition this peace process to the outcome of the Constituent Assembly.

2. The Quintin Lame armed movement will unilaterally maintain its cease-fire and the suspension of all activities affecting peoples' lives and property.

3. The national government, on its own initiative, will promote and support regional peace talks in Cauca Department, with the participation of representatives from social groups and from the government, in an effort to create the necessary climate for the peace process and for the reincorporation of rebel groups into society.

4. At the next meeting, the national government and the Quintin Lame armed group will study the schedule, means, and procedures for the reincorporation of the Quintin Lame rebel group into the country's civilian and democratic life.

Two special commissions will be created, with representatives from the Advisory Board for Reconciliation, Normalization, and Rehabilitation and from the rebel group, who will study and propose mechanisms aimed at overcoming the outbreaks of violence that still persist in Cauca Department, as well as aspects to assist the communities affected by the conflict.

Ecuador

Defense Minister Denies Peruvian Incursion

PA2509182590 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0509 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Quito, 25 Sep (EFE)—After investigating a report of alleged mistreatment of Ecuadoran miners in recent weeks, Ecuadoran Defense Minister Jorge Felix said that there has been no incursion of Peruvian soldiers in the El Condor mountain range in southeastern Ecuador.

Felix said yesterday that after an official commission of the Defense and Foreign Ministries visited the region over the weekend, it was concluded that there have been no incidents on the El Condor mountain range, 366 km southeast of Quito.

Everything is normal and peaceful, and there have been no incidents, Felix said, adding that the Ecuadoran Armed Forces are permanently patrolling the region and that there has been no incursion in more than a year.

Humberto Delgado, a deputy from the southern province of Zamora-Chinchipe, reported to Congress that Ecuadoran miners working in the area of Chipaniza along the Condor mountain range had been mistreated by Peruvian soldiers.

The official investigation of the alleged Peruvian incursion was carried out in the same area where the Peruvian and Ecuadoran Armies clashed in 1981, 40 years after the first armed conflict between the two countries in a territorial dispute they have maintained for half a century.

In 1942, a year after the first armed clash, the two nations signed the Rio de Janeiro protocol, which ended the armed conflict and which for Ecuador meant the loss of a large part of its territory and access to the Amazon River.

Peru

Fujimori Says Relations With Banks Improving

PY2609014790 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Excerpts] President Alberto Fujimori has said that Peru is returning to the international financial system. He said

this when commenting on the favorable remarks that have been made by a high-ranking IMF official. Fujimori said that Peru also maintains good relations with the World Bank and the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank]. The president talked to reporters after presiding over the ceremonies celebrating the day of the Armed Forces and its benefactor, the Virgin of Las Mercedes. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Reporter] IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus has said that he will give every support to Peru's economic program. Camdessus also said that he hopes negotiations will resume before December. What can you tell us about this?

[Fujimori] We expected that this would happen. I announced it after my trip [to the United States and Japan]. Mr. Camdessus is fulfilling a promise he made a couple of months ago. This announcement is very positive for Peru, and it not only affects our position with the IMF but also with the World Bank and the IDB. We will talk with these three international organizations. We expect to reach an agreement and thus obtain some support credits so that funds will come to the country in a more effective way.

[Reporter] When will the issue of eligibility be discussed?

[Fujimori] Peru is still in an unfavorable position. We hope that Peru in a few days... [changes thought] after the negotiations we will return to a normal situation, that is, we will again have the right to receive credits. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Fujimori Addresses Officers on Armed Forces Day

PY2609003690 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Speech by President Alberto Fujimori at a luncheon to commemorate the Armed Forces anniversary at the Chorrillos Military Officers School on 24 September—recorded]

[Text] As supreme commander of the Armed Forces and the National Police, I could not be absent from this ceremony and not share this moment, which symbolically expresses the unity of the military institutions and demonstrates the affinity of their objectives in the noble mission they have been entrusted by the Constitution: to guarantee our sovereignty, preserve the democratic system, and struggle for the construction of a society whose objective is development with social justice.

The Armed Forces are responsibly carrying out a role on which the country's future largely depends and which demands a deep commitment from each of its members.

The national transformation to which we are currently devoted, as well as our combined efforts for moralization, participation in national development, and pacification, demands a maximum contribution from the military institutions. In this task of building a truly sovereign country, you—just as you did during difficult moments in our history—must continue occupying a vanguard post and become a motivating example for all Peruvians.

I am sure that all uniformed men, notwithstanding their rank or post, are aware of this responsibility and assume it within their institutional framework by making the best effort in keeping with the demands of such a noble mission.

My government will correspond by supporting the Armed Forces in better compliance with their objective by providing the funds necessary for the Fodena, National Development Fund. [applause].

This is why the country regards the future with optimism and confidence, because its Armed Forces, which were born out of the people's aspirations, have demonstrated that they have matured for this dramatic moment in history in which our society's future is at stake. Gentlemen, long live the Armed Forces! Long live Peru!

Chile's Aylwin Overflies Country, Sends Message

PY2509180790 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Chilean President Patricio Aylwin today sent a message in which he expressed his wishes of well-being to all Peruvians. The message was sent while Aylwin was overflying our national territory on his way to Ecuador, where he will pay a three-day visit.

The Peruvian chief of state thanked him for the gesture and confirmed the friendship that unites the two countries.

Uruguay

Unrest Over Budget Between Navy, Army Denied

PY2509193190 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 13 Sep 90 p 7

[Text] A very senior Defense Ministry source on 12 September denied to EL DIA that there is "unrest" within the Army over the fact that the executive branch is allegedly giving priority to the Navy over the other branches. This rumor has been spreading among political sectors for more than two weeks.

Political sources consulted by EL DIA have said that the government's policy regarding the Armed Forces is "disrupting traditional order."

The sources said that the new budget will reportedly increase the allocation to the Navy to the detriment of the Army.

They added that "although the figures have not yet been confirmed, it is estimated that the Army budget may have been cut by nine percent, while the Navy budget might have been increased by five percent."

Yesterday Defense Ministry sources denied those rumors. The sources admitted the possibility, however, of a cut of up to 10 percent of the vacant positions in the Armed Forces within the context of a reduction of expenditure as established by the executive branch. This information was confirmed by the defense minister in an exclusive interview with EL DIA,

The sources consulted by EL DIA also said that a thorough report drafted by the Commanders Executive Board was taken into account in the preparation of the defense sector budget.

Armed Forces Doctrine Detailed

PY2609012090 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 13 Sep 90 p 7

[Text] According to National Defense Minister Mariano Brito, the new doctrine on use of the Armed Forces, which the executive branch is still analyzing, will include elements of the "strategic trend" [corriente estrategica] that the U.S. Government is formulating. Brito also disclosed that up to 10 percent of the vacant posts for lower ranking personnel will be eliminated over the next five years, within the framework of the Armed Forces rationalization program. Brito also urged some political sectors to cease "confronting" the Armed Forces.

During an exclusive interview with EL DIA, Minister Brito said that the new draft budget bill for salaries, expenditures, and investments, which has been submitted to Congress, "is realistic" and befits the country's socioeconomic situation. Brito said: "I would not say that the hour of truth has come for the Armed Forces because it would sound as if up to now they have been living a sort of unreal situation or have not faced reality." However, "the Defense Ministry now has a true budget."

The minister also said that the Armed Forces, as any public organ, had great expectations for the budget, but "when one compares figures with those for other sectors of the country, one realizes that the best effort was made."

Brito added: "If the results are not better, it is because the situation does not allow it."

When asked about rationalization of the Armed Forces, Brito said that an effort will be made to have an Armed Forces that will adjust to the country's possibilities, and he announced the elimination of a significant number of vacant posts, which will include up to 10 percent of the lower ranking posts. However, he explained this measure will not include technical posts, such as the health service. "The rationalization seeks to optimize the use of resources that we have so we can make the most of them because services will be reorganized from the quantitative and qualitative point of view."

Regarding the new Armed Forces doctrine, Brito said the executive branch intends to revaluate man's dignity, as well as national values. Regarding this, he confirmed the Armed Forces pledge to defend the Republic's independence and integrity, its honor, the Constitution, the laws, and their democratic institutions.

He also added that the three forces uphold a state of law, and noted that they also uphold a state of social law.

The minister then said that the national security doctrine is currently undergoing a critical review, although "security continues to be fully in force because it is one of the rights established by the Constitution."

When asked what influence the "strategic trend" being prepared by the United States could have on the new Armed Forces doctrine, Brito referred to the subject in an international context stating that the United States is "a country that plays a leading role in modern history; its ideas influence and have an impact on all countries of the world."

In referring to the scope of the U.S. "strategic trend" on the issue, Brito said: "Considering them (the U.S. theories) does not mean subordination to the United States. In this case, we are a sovereign state that analyzes and assesses these doctrines in order to accept or share them, always exercising the freedom and independence it enjoys in its capacity as a sovereign state. The important thing is that the country preserves its own dignity."

Brito added: "The modern world entails reciprocal and very powerful relations. Therefore, development of the U.S. theory in this field has an influence on this and many countries, but this does not mean subordination to the United States."

Brito then urged some political sectors to give up their "confrontation policy" with military institutions, thus overcoming past disputes. He ended by stating: "Now we must all look forward...toward the future."

Defense Minister Explains Remarks

PY2609013090 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 14 Sep 90 p 7

[Text] Defense Minister Mariano Brito has explained a statement he made in an interview with EL DIA, which was published yesterday, on the impact of the U.S. military doctrine.

Brito said that "at no point" did he say that the new doctrine of the Uruguayan Armed Forces "would include elements" of the strategic trend being prepared by the U.S. Government.

"The United States is a country that plays a leading role in modern history; its ideas influence and have an impact on all countries of the world," Brito said answering a question by EL DIA on the possible influence of U.S. military doctrine on the new doctrine being prepared by the Uruguayan Armed forces. He added: "Considering them (the U.S. theories) does not mean subordination to the United States. In this case, we are a sovereign state that analyzes and assesses these doctrines

in order to accept or share them, always exercising the freedom and independence it enjoys in its capacity as a sovereign state."

Brito explained that he did not say that the doctrine would include elements of the "strategic trend" the United States is preparing, as interpreted in the interview published last Thursday [13 September].

Venezuela

Perez Predicts Reduced Prices, Use of Oil

PA2609005190 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] President Carlos Andres Perez has referred to the Persian Gulf conflict and its effect on oil prices during a news conference he gave while visiting Nueva Esparta State. He predicted that there will soon be a drop in oil prices, despite the Middle East conflict.

[Begin Perez recording] This is a very dangerous situation. Our country fully supports the decisions adopted by the United Nations to restore Kuwait's sovereignty after its occupation by Iraq. We also support the position of the United States and the European nations, which have decided to implement the UN decisions on the embargo against Iraq.

From the Venezuelan viewpoint, this has caused a sudden increase in petroleum prices. Even though this should make us very happy, it is instead worrisome, because that sudden price hike will lead to efforts by the big petroleum consuming countries to reduce their petroleum consumption and replace petroleum with other energy sources that might be relatively less expensive than petroleum. [end recording]

New Development Minister Cisneros Sworn In

PA2609004790 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0013 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] As the new development minister, Imelda Cisneros de Perez intends to strive for lower prices and better terms for consumers in accordance with the plans of her predecessor Moises Nay. This is what she said at the Miraflores Palace after she was sworn in:

[Begin Cisneros recording] This is a measure of the team work of those who have been working at the ministry with general, sector, and line directors, as well as technicians, professionals, and administrative personnel members, all of whom have undertaken a project with great devotion and a great desire to work for the country. We have made huge progress on this project that we started last year, but there are still some things to do. [end recording]